

# ARMY NAVY

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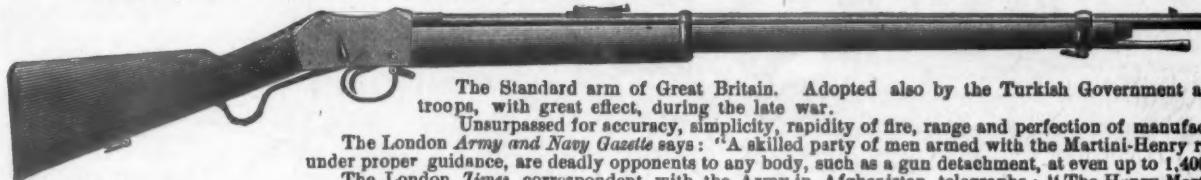
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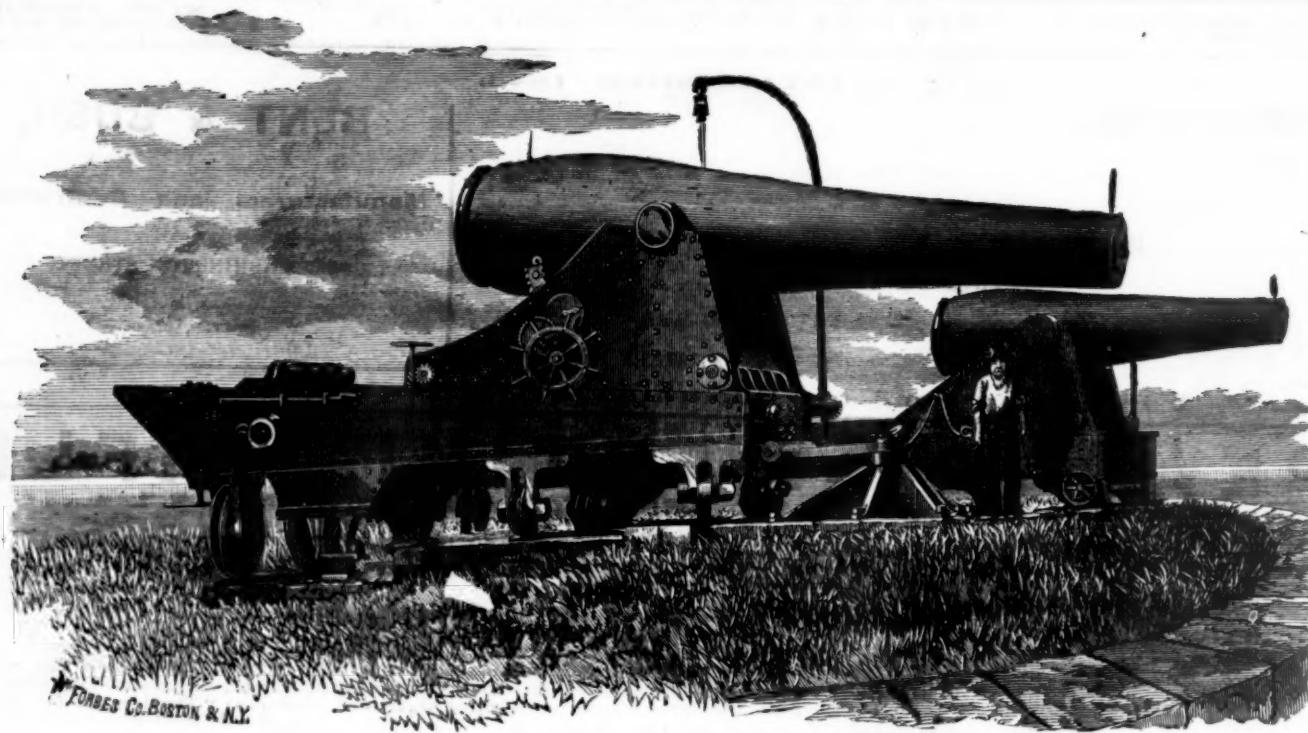
# THE SOUTH BOSTON IRON COMPANY,

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WORKS—South Boston.

The above illustration is from a photograph taken at Sandy Hook of the 10-inch and 12½-inch experimental rifles, manufactured by the South Boston Iron Co. for the United States Government.

The report of the test firing is recorded in the report of the Chief of Ordnance for 1878, where Gen. Bénet states that they have proved more powerful than guns of like calibre, produced at the famous works of Krupp and Armstrong, in Europe.

The Constructor of Ordnance, U. S. A., says to the South Boston Iron Co., under date of Nov. 8, 1878: "The association of your foundry with the United States Ordnance Department has been so long, and the product you have furnished—more especially in your line of the heaviest ordnance—gives such continued satisfaction, that I have no hesitation in assuring you, that you have the entire confidence of the Ordnance Department in the executing of any work of this character entrusted to your execution." "And I venture to assert that your production of cast iron for gun construction cannot be excelled either here or abroad." "We are now sufficiently far advanced in experiments to confidently go to work with a view of introducing guns of the largest calibre, and of equal power to any of those that are fabricated in the work shops of the governments of Europe; also the celebrated private manufacturers of Essen (Krupp), Armstrong, Whitworth and Firth." "The table of 'powers' will show that our ordnance—as far as developed, calibre for calibre—have equal powers at least with those of Europe." "Their endurance, as far as tested, (see reports of the Chief of Ordnance, U. S. A., of 1874, 1875, 1876, and 1877), are all that could be desired."

Table of Comparative Power of American and European Heavy Rifled Ordnance.

Kind of gun.	Calibre, Inches.	Weight of gun, Tons.	Length of bore, Inches.	Charge of powder, Pounds.	Weight of shot, Pounds.	Muzzle velocity, Feet.	Pressure per $\text{in}^2$ of bore, Pounds.	Energy per inch of shot's circumference, at—					
								1,000 yards. Foot-tones.	2,000 yards. Foot-tones.	3,000 yards. Foot-tones.	4,000 yards. Foot-tones.		
English M. L. Wrought iron, steel tube.....	12	35	162.5	110	700	1300	52,864	217.7	184	157.5	186.4	194.9	
Krupp B. L. Steel.....	12	35.50	257.167	110	664	1829	29,106	215.8	180	153.6	190.9	113.6	
Italian B. L. Cast-iron, steel-hooped.....	12.6	37	232	110	770	1220	19,845	300	8	171.4	147.9	180.2	113.4
American M. L. Cast-iron, wrought iron tube.....	12.25	40	227	110	700	1403	31,730	248.4	205.8	173.2	147.9	197.7	
English M. L. Wrought iron, steel tube.....	10	18	145.5	70	400	1364	47,040	164.3	132.9	109.7	92.9	78.4	
Krupp B. L. Steel.....	10	19.44	169.6	66	374	1426	.....	167.9	132.7	107.5	88.6	74.6	
Italian B. L. Cast-iron, steel-hooped.....	9.448	17	157.5	66	330	1426.8	32,000	157	120.7	99.6	82.4	60.2	
French B. L. Cast-iron, steel-hooped, and tubed.....	9.499	18.8	162.55	61.74	317.6	1427	.....	150	117	93.8	76.8	64	
American M. L. Cast-iron, wrought iron tube.....	10	18	147.22	70	400	1381	22,600	168.4	135.6	111.6	98.8	79.7	

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# ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

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## THE ARMY.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, President and Com'der-in-Chief.  
George W. McCrary, Secretary of War.

W. T. Sherman, General of the Army of the United States  
Washington, D. C. Brig.-Gen. E. D. Townsend, Adj't.-General.

By authority of the Secretary of War, the Quartermaster's Department, in furnishing transportation for enlisted men of the Signal Service on change of station, will allow and provide for one hundred pounds of baggage to accompany each enlisted man of that service on the same conveyance by which he is transported. As stage companies usually transport from twenty-five to fifty pounds of baggage only with each passenger on his passage ticket, an additional quantity may be allowed in such cases to the extent necessary to make up the one hundred pounds herein authorized. No change in the present system of providing transportation by rail and water will be necessary, as in such cases from one hundred to one hundred and fifty pounds are transported with each passenger upon exhibition of his passage ticket (G. O. 13, March 6, H. Q. A.)

By direction of the Secretary of War, secs. 11 and 38 of the rules for the support and government of post schools, libraries, and reading rooms, published in G. O. 24, May 18, 1878, from this office, are amended to read as follows:

11. The Quartermaster General will, under direction of the Secretary of War, procure and forward to the post librarian such periodicals as his appropriation for incidental expenses can afford to pay for or school books in lieu of periodicals, when the post fund is not sufficient to supply them, and the post does not desire periodicals.

38. The necessary school books for soldiers and for soldiers' children will be purchased from the post fund, except in cases provided for in sec. 11 of these rules (G. O. 14, March 7, H. Q. A.)

The following Act of Congress is published for the information and government of all concerned:

An Act for the payment, to the officers and soldiers of the Mexican war, of the three months' extra pay provided for by the act of July 19, 1848.

(This act and the section of the act of July 19, 1848, herewith republished, appeared in the JOURNAL of last week, Feb. 8, p. 553). (G. O. 15, March 8, H. Q. A.)

The Secretary of War directs that the following order be issued to the Army:

I. Hereafter the ration of salt beef will be 22 ounces; and two pounds of tea and four pounds of salt to every one hundred rations will be issued instead of the quantities heretofore authorized. Fourteen ounces of dried fish or eighteen ounces of pickled or fresh fish may be issued in lieu of a ration of fresh beef. Molasses or syrup may be issued in lieu of sugar at the rate of two gallons of molasses or syrup in lieu of fifteen pounds of sugar.

II. When troops are detached from a post or command, the commanding officer of each company or smaller detachment will be furnished, by the Commissary of such post or command, with a certificate setting forth the date to which rations were last issued by him, and the rations (if any) due but not issued, to such company or detachment, which certificate will be presented to the Commissary from whom rations may next be drawn, and transmitted by him with his abstract of issues to the Commissary-General.

Similar certificates will, under like circumstances, be given to employees entitled to rations (G. O. 16, March 10, H. Q. A.)

G. O. 1, M. D. of the Missouri, March 4, 1879, calls attention to sec. 5313, R. S., which imposes a penalty of fine and imprisonment, on all persons in the military or naval service of the United States, who buy or sell, trade or in any way deal in captured or abandoned property, whereby they shall receive or expect any profit, benefit, or advantage to themselves or any other person directly or indirectly connected with them.

The General of the Army decides that: "At a military post where buildings are not specially designed for commanding officer, surgeon, etc., and where none are to be displaced, the commanding officer of a post should have choice of quarters over any staff officer who happens to be at the post, otherwise he does not 'command'" (Circular 2, Feb. 15, D. C.)

At posts supplied with barrack chairs, officers may purchase for their own use, not exceeding six each (Q. M. G. O., Feb. 28, W. D.)

Q. M. Report.—The attention of the Dept. Commander has been called to the fact that it has been the practice of officers of the Q. M. Dept., serving in this Department, and of officers serving as Quartermasters of posts, to make annual reports to the Quartermaster-General, and to send them to that officer direct. This practice is a violation of the regulations, and will be no longer tolerated. All such reports, if made at all, must be sent through post commanders, and through these Hdqrs (G. O. 3, Feb. 24, D. C.)

Boards of Survey.—Hereafter, in this Department, the proceedings of Boards of Survey must contain full, detailed, and complete statements, in narrative form, of all the facts upon which the findings are based. The form, too frequently used, "the board finds the facts as stated in the accompanying affidavits," is forbidden. Affidavits must not be made a part of the findings. They are appended to proceedings to show upon what the board based its judgment, but the judgment itself—"the finding"—must contain, within itself, all the facts in the case. The form which is herein forbidden, doubtless saves labor on the part of members of boards—but it seems to be forgotten that the labor which it saves them, it imposes on the Department Commander. Post commanders are charged with the enforcement of this order (G. O. 4, Feb. 27, D. C.)

## STAFF CORPS AND DEPARTMENTS.

Brig.-General Alfred H. Terry will proceed to New York City, to attend the adjourned meeting of the Board convened by S. O. 78, H. Q. A., 1878. Upon the further adjournment of the Board, Gen. Terry will return to his station in St. Paul, Minn. (S. O. 22, March 3, D. D.)

Lieut.-Colonel C. H. Tompkins, Q. M. Dept., Chief Q. M. of the Dept., will proceed to Bismarck, D. T., and return, on public business (S. O. 23, March 5, D. D.)

Major James Belger, Q. M., Post and Depot Q. M. Fort Union, N. M., will relieve 1st Lieut. E. D. Dimmick, 9th Cavalry, of his duties as A. C. S. Fort Union (S. O. 16, Feb. 26, D. N. M.)

Major Edw. D. Judd, P. D., having been granted leave of absence until further orders, on account of

disability, Major J. H. Nelson, P. D., now at Carlisle Bks, Pa., will take station at N. Y. City, reporting to the Chief Paymaster of the Dept. for instructions (S. O. 34, March 5, D. E.)

Major Asa Bird Gardner, J. A., will proceed to Washington, D. C., on public business (S. O. 35, March 6, D. E.)

So much of S. O. 261, Dec. 5, 1878, from W. D. A.-G. O., as relieved Captain Wm. S. Stanton, Corps of Engineers, from duty on the staff of the Comdg' Gen. Dept. of the Plate, and directed him to proceed to Willet's Point, N. Y., and report for duty with the Battalion of Engineers, is revoked (S. O., March 8, W. D.)

The journeys performed by Capt. Wm. A. Elderkin, S. D., from Yankton, D. T., to Sioux City, Iowa, on the 28th day of February, 1879, and from Sioux City, Iowa, to Yankton, D. T., on the 3d day of March, 1879, on public service, are approved (S. O. 22, March 3, D. D.)

When his other duties will permit, Capt. A. S. Kimball, A. Q. M., Post Q. M., Atlanta, Ga., will make an inspection of the National Cemeteries at Andersonville and Marietta, Ga. (S. O. 38, March 4, D. S.)

The following changes in the duties and stations of officers of the Corps of Engrs. are announced: Captain William A. Jones is relieved from his duties as Engineer of the 6th Light-house District, and will report to the Comdg' Gen. Mil. Div. of the Pacific for duty upon his staff; 1st Lieut. Carl F. Palfrey is relieved from duty on the staff of the Comdg' Gen. Mil. Div. of the Pacific, and will report to the Comdg' Gen. Dept. of Arizona for duty upon his staff; 1st Lieut. Thomas W. Symons is relieved from duty with 1st Lieut. Geo M. Wheeler, to take effect as soon as his services can be spared by that officer, and will report to the Comdg' Gen. Dept. of the Columbia for duty upon his staff (S. O., March 11, W. D.)

The following changes in the stations and duties of officers of the Medical Department are announced: Surg. F. L. Town will proceed to N. Y. City and report to the Supt. of the General Recruiting Service to accompany the first detachment of recruits ordered to the Pacific coast, and, upon the completion of that duty, will report to the Comdg' Gen. Dept. of the Columbia for duty; Surg. H. K. Tilton will report to the Comdg' Gen. Dept. of the Missouri for duty; Asst. Surg. Calvin De Witt will proceed to N. Y. City and report to the president of the Army Medical Board for examination for promotion, and, upon the conclusion of his examination, will return to his proper station; Asst. Surg. A. A. De Lofre will report to the Comdg' Gen. Dept. of the South for duty; Asst. Surg. J. L. Powell (recently appointed) will report to the Comdg' Gen. Dept. of Texas for duty (S. O., March 11, W. D.) Asst. Surg. W. S. Tremaine will rejoin his proper station by April 1st, proximo (S. O., March 11, W. D.)

A. A. Surg. George Scott Oldmixon is relieved from duty at Camp Verde, A. T., and will accompany Co. B, Indian scouts, to Camp McDowell, A. T., and upon arrival of the company at that post, he will report to the C. O. thereof, for duty as post surgeon (S. O. 23, Feb. 21, D. A.)

Asst. Surgeon W. Reed, member G. C.-M. Camp Apache, A. T., March 10 (S. O. 23, Feb. 23, D. A.)

Surg. J. C. McFee, Major R. H. Towler, P. D., and Capt. C. P. Eagan, members G. C.-M. Fort Whipple, A. T., March 20 (S. O. 23, Feb. 21, D. A.)

Asst. Surg. J. C. Worthington, member G. C.-M. Camp Grant, A. T., March 10 (S. O. 23, Feb. 21, D. A.)

Assistant Surgeon J. V. Lauderdale will proceed to Mount Vernon Barracks, Alabama, for duty as Post Surgeon. Upon the arrival of Surgeon Lauderdale at Mount Vernon Bks, the C. O. of that post will cause the contract with A. A. Surg. W. W. Rowan, to be annulled (S. O. 40, March 6, D. S.)

Lt. Col. S. Crispin and T. J. Treadwell and Major T. G. Baylor, Ordnance Corps, have been appointed a board to meet at the New York Ordnance Agency to examine First Lieuts. Charles Shafer and Henry Metcalfe, of the Ordnance Corps, for promotion when legally entitled thereto.

### LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

One month, to take effect from the 1st proximo, Asst. Surg. Joseph Y. Porter, Key West, Fla. (S. O. 41, March 7, D. S.)

On account of sickness, Surg. William S. King, extended eight months, with permission to go beyond sea (S. O., March 6, W. D.)

The leave of absence granted Surg. Edward P. Volum, in S. O. 23, March 2, 1879, Hdqrs Mounted Recruiting Service, extended ten days (S. O., March 11, W. D.)

### PAYMENT OF TROOPS.

Majors J. P. Willard and A. S. Towar, P. D., will proceed to pay the troops stationed in the District, to Feb. 28, 1879, making their first payments as soon after the 3d proximo as practicable: Maj. Willard will make payments at Forts Marcy, Wingate, and Bayard, N. M., and Fort Bliss, Texas; Major Towar at Forts Stanton and Union, N. M., and Fort Lewis, Colo. (S. O. 17, Feb. 27, D. N. M.)

### NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, ETC.

The Comdg' Gen. Dept. of the Plate will grant a furlough for six months, with permission to go beyond sea, to Hosp. Steward John J. Swan, now on duty in his command (S. O., March 7, W. D.)

Com. Sergt. Ernest Boerner is relieved from duty at Fort Hays, Kas., and will proceed to Ft. Lewis, Colo., for duty; Com. Sergt. Francis McCaffery will proceed to Fort Hays, Kas., for duty (S. O., March 5, W. D.)

### THE LINE.

1ST CAVALRY, Colonel Cuvier Grover.—Headquarters, and H. D. F. K. M. Fort Walla Walla, Wash. T.; A. E. Camp Harney, Ore.; C. Camp Bidwell, Cal.; G. Fort Boise, Idaho T.; I. Camp Bileck, Nev.; H. Fort Colville, Wash. T.; L. Ft. Klamath, Ore.

Captain Perry.—The Court of Inquiry, of which Lieut.-Col. Alexander Chambers, 21st Inf., is president, convened at the request of Capt. David Perry, 1st Cav., "to investigate the statements contained in the reports of several officers of the Army, and which Capt. Perry believes to reflect upon his conduct during the Nez Perce Campaign of 1877;" and which was required also to "investigate and inquire into so much of Capt. Perry's conduct generally, during the said campaign as has not been already made the subject of inquiry by the Court instituted by S. F. O. 42, Hdqrs Dept. of the Columbia, series of 1877," has rendered the following opinion:

That up to the time of the fight at White Bird Canon, (except that no evidence appears that a suitable quantity of ammunition had been provided in case of an emergency,) every precaution that good judgment dictated, was taken by Capt. Perry; that at White Bird Canon the disposition of the troops was judicious and proper, with the exception of leaving his left to be protected by some citizens—possibly unavoidable. That soon after the fight began, this post was abandoned by the citizens in a panic extending to nearly all the troops, who became so disorganized and dispersed as to be unmanageable.

That Capt. Perry, after the panic took place, did all in his power to collect and organize the men for a defense, without success, owing partly to the troops not being well drilled in firing mounted; and the Court does not deem his conduct deserving of censure.

In regard to the affair at Cottonwood, it does not appear probable that, had Capt. Perry attacked under the circumstances, any very great advantage could have been gained, while, by so doing, he would have jeopardized the safety of his supplies of provisions, and more especially, ammunition for the main column in the field. His conduct there appears to have been in accordance with the dictates of good judgment and prudence, particularly as the enemy was flushed with success, and a part of his command at least, had recently suffered from a severe disaster.

As regards the affair at the Clearwater, he appears to have done all required of him, and all that, under the circumstances, could have been reasonably expected of him—the Commanding General, being present.

It further appears to the Court, from the written statements of some of the officers of the 1st Cavalry, submitted to the Court, a coloring by insinuations has been given, prejudicial to the conduct of Capt. Perry, unwarranted by the evidence.

The Reviewing Officer approves the proceedings, findings, and opinion of the Court, excepting this shade of difference: that it does not appear to him, from the evidence, that Capt. Perry is at all answerable for the limited quantity of ammunition on hand at the engagement of White Bird Canon; neither is it clear that the citizens (volunteers) were misplaced upon his left. Their subsequent conduct could not have been foreseen (G. O. 1, Feb. 5, D. Col.)

2ND CAVALRY, Colonel I. N. Palmer.—Headquarters and C. D. G. M. Fort Uster, M. T.; A. B. E. I. Fort Keogh; F. H. E. L. Fort Hill, M. T.

3RD CAVALRY, Col. Wash. L. Elliott.—Headquarters, and A. B. D. F. Fort Larimore, Wyo. T.; I. Fort Fetterman, Wyo. T.; C. I. Fort Robinson, Neb.; G. Camp Sheridan, Neb.; K. M. Fort Sidney, Neb.; H. Fort Fred Steele, Wyo. T.; L. Fort McPherson, Neb.

4TH CAVALRY, Col. R. S. Mackenzie.—Headquarters, and A. D. E. L. M. Fort Clark, Tex.; G. H. Fort Reno, Ind. T.; C. Fort Sill, Ind. T.; I. Fort Supply, Ind. T.; B. F. Fort Elliott, Tex.; H. Fort Duncan, Tex.

Detached Service.—1st Lieut. L. O. Parker will, upon arrival of the recruits referred to in par. 2, S. O. 40, from these Hdqrs, assume charge, and conduct them to Fort Clark, Tex. (S. O. 48, March 4, D. T.)

5TH CAVALRY, Col. W. Merritt.—Headquarters and A. B. D. F. I. M. Fort A. Hancock, Wyo. T.; C. E. K. Fort McKinney, Wyo. T.; H. Fort McPherson, Neb.; G. L. Fort Washakie, Wyo. T.

6TH CAVALRY, Col. James Oakes.—Headquarters and M. C. Lowell, A. T.; A. G. Camp Grant, A. T.; B. Camp Huachuca, A. T.; C. L. Camp Bowie, A. T.; E. D. C. Camp Apache, A. T.; H. E. Camp Verde, A. T.; I. Camp McDowell, A. T.; F. Camp Thomas, A. T.

Detached Service.—Capt. Daniel Madden, Charles H. Campbell, 1st Lieut. H. P. Perrine, 2d Lieuts. B. H. Cheever, Jr., J. N. Glass, members, G. C.-M. Camp Grant, A. T., March 10 (S. O. 23, Feb. 21, D. A.)

Major Charles E. Compton, Capt. Adam Kramer, E. C. Hentig, 1st Lieut. William Stanton, members, G. C.-M. Camp Apache, Ariz. T., March 10 (S. O. 23, Feb. 21, D. A.)

Relieved.—1st Lieut. F. West is relieved from the command of Co. B, Indian Scouts (S. O. 20, Feb. 18, D. A.)

7TH CAVALRY, Colonel S. D. Sturgis.—Headquarters, and A. C. G. H. I. L. Fort A. Lincoln, D. T.; F. E. Fort Totten, D. T.; B. D. Fort Yates, D. T.; E. M. Fort Meade, D. T.

Detached Service.—Capt. H. J. Nowlan, now in St. Paul, Minn., returning to his station from leave of absence, will report to the Dept. Comdr. for special instructions (S. O. 22, March 3, D. D.)

2d Lieut. William J. Nicholson will report to the Supt. Mounted Recruiting Service to accompany recruits to the Dept. of Dakota (S. O., March 7, W. D.)

Report of the Reno Court.—The following is the report of the Reno Court of Inquiry:

I. The Court of Inquiry of which Colonel John H. King, 9th Infantry, is President, instituted by direction of the President, in Special Orders No. 355, Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant-General's Office, November 23, 1878, on the application of Major Marcus A. Reno, 7th Cavalry, for the purpose of inquiring into Major Reno's conduct at the battle of the Little Big Horn River, on the 25th and 26th days of June, 1878, has reported the following facts and opinion, viz.:

First.—On the morning of the 25th of June, 1878, the 7th Cavalry, Lieut.-Col. G. A. Custer commanding, operating against hostile Indians in Montana Territory, near the Little Big Horn River, was divided into four battalions, two of which were commanded by Col. Custer in person, with the exception of one company in charge of the pack train, one by Major Reno, and one by Capt. F.



tachment will rejoin its company at the new post (S. O. 43, March 6, D. M.)

Capt. R. I. Eskridge is detailed a member G. C.-M. convened at Fort Supply, I. T., by par. 2, S. O. 33, from these Hdqrs (S. O. 43, March 6, D. M.)

34TH INFANTRY, Colonel Joseph H. Potter.—Headquarters and A. B. F. Fort Duncan, Tex.; D. E. H. Fort McIntosh, Tex.; G. I. K. Fort Ringgold, Tex.

25TH INFANTRY, Colonel George L. Andrews.—Headquarters and E. H. I. Fort Davis, Tex.; G. D. F. Fort Stockton, Tex.; B. San Felipe, Tex.; A. G. K. Ft. Concho, Tex.

*Leave of Absence.*—One month, to apply for extension of three months, 2d Lieut. George Andrews, Fort Davis, Tex. (S. O. 43, March 4, D. T.)

*Casualties among the Commissioned Officers of the U. S. Army reported to the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, March 8, 1879.*

Capt. Thomas Blair, 15th Inf.—Dismissed March 5, 1879.

Major Brantz Mayer, U. S. Army (retired)—Died Feb. 23, 1879, at Baltimore, Md.

*Note.*—No Circular was issued for the week ending March 1, 1879.

*Post Discontinued.*—The designation "Camp Guilford D. Bailey," as indicating the location for a portion of the troops at the Post of San Antonio, is hereby abrogated (S. O. 43, March 8, D. T.)

*Rifle Practice.*—The Secretary of War having authorized the sending of a team from Division Missouri to compete at the annual meeting of the National Rifle Association at Creedmoor, Long Island, in the fall of this year, Department Commanders will detail the six best marksmen of the enlisted men in their respective commands, and cause them to be sent to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, so as to arrive there by August 1st, next, reporting on arrival to the officer hereafter to be designated by the Division Commander, who will be charged to superintend the practice at target-shooting of these men at Fort Leavenworth. After their practice at that post, which will terminate about August 25th, the officer in charge of them will select from the twenty-four men so assembled, the sixteen best marksmen as shown by the record of practice, to constitute a team of twelve with four alternates, and proceed with them to Governor's Island, New York Harbor, reporting upon arrival to the Commanding General Military Division of the Atlantic. It is desired that the team shall have at least two weeks' practice at Creedmoor, before the annual meeting takes place (G. O. 2, March 6, D. S.)

The Commander Dept. South invites renewed interest and attention on the part of every officer and soldier in the Department, to the subject of target practice. While the object of this practice is not so much to develop experts in rifle shooting as it is to make every soldier a good every-day reliable shot, it is believed a careful and persistent practice according to the best rules, will do this, and in addition develop experts capable of successfully competing with the experts selected from other bodies and trained for the annual competition at Creedmoor. At all events it is hoped that an earnest and general effort will be made to do so. General Orders No. 1, current series, from Headquarters Department of the West (copy enclosed), contains full instructions to be observed in the practice in that Department, and that there may be entire uniformity in the Division in this matter, they will be closely followed in this Department. A Circular from same Headquarters (copy enclosed) gives information as to obtaining the necessary material for re-loading, etc. Company Commanders will make their requisitions at once for what is required. Butts, pits and target frames should be prepared immediately, where they do not already exist, and practice commence as soon as everything is ready. Careful and specific reports will be made after each practice, accompanied by suggestions as to improvement in the system, and as to what is lacking to secure a more perfect success in the practice (G. O. 3, March 6, D. S.)

Gen. McDowell is having a rifle range constructed at the Presidio on the Creedmoor plan, with covered ditches for the protection of the marksmen. To encourage marksmanship among the soldiers three medals have been struck—one for the best shot in each of the Departments of Arizona, California and Columbia—to be awarded on the regular reports of the Post Commanders. When the three medals have been awarded the wearers will be brought to the Presidio Range to compete for the medal of the Division of the Pacific, and the winner will be made Adjutant of the team to be sent to Creedmoor to compete in the International Military Match.

#### Enlisted Men Sentenced to Confinement.

*Three Months.*—J. McManus, L, 6th Cav.; J. McGill, H, 20th Inf.; R. J. Cunningham, H, 15th Inf.; J. Thomet, D, 2d Inf.; P. Towne, F, 3d Cav.; D. Clements, D, 9th Inf.; G. W. Towne, D, 9th Cav.; C. G. James, Batt. M, 1st Art.; T. O'Mara, F, 13th Inf.; J. Faulkner, B, 13th Inf.; C. McLeish, B, 3d Art.

*Four Months.*—G. Peterson, F, 9th Cav.; J. R. Turner, K, 4th Art.; W. Burns, E, 9th Cav.; J. Doherty, M, 5th Cav.; F. Lapin, G, 9th Inf.; H. Edgar, B, 4th Art.; B. C. Longfellow, I, 8th Inf.; C. Cary, G, 13th Inf.; P. Quinn, H, 6th Cav.

*Five Months.*—B. Wright, C, 24th Inf.; F. Mickel, I, 21st Inf.

*Six Months.*—H. Lewis, C, 6th Cav.; J. T. Christopher, E, 9th Inf.; E. Leane, E, 4th Art.; C. McDermott, C, 10th Inf.; E. Staice, M, 9th Cav.; G. W. Wager, G, 3d Inf.; P. Kearney, M, 1st Cav.; B. H. Howard, B, 2d Art.; F. S. Hamilton, Genl. Ser. U. S. A.; J. Haley, M, 5th Cav.; O. Miservey, F, 3d Cav.; C. Riley, A, 3d Cav.; C. Evans, D, 21st Inf.; E. H. Patterson, I, 12th Inf.; J. Hunter, I, 6th Cav.

*Seven Months.*—T. Flasberg, G, 6th Cav.; J. T. Winn, C, 6th Cav.; W. H. Sexton, B, 3d Art.

*Eight Months.*—G. W. Wilkerson, M, 6th Cav.; J. F. O'Neill, C, 6th Cav.

*ten Months.*—J. Clarke, G, 6th Cav.

*One Year.*—C. Preston, C, 3d Cav.; S. Calnon, K, 5th Cav.; P. Kerrigan, D, 19th Inf.; C. Beader, Genl. Service, U. S. A.; W. H. Sexton, B, 3d Art.; G. Adams, H, 2d Art.; A. Sanders, F, 1st Cav.; J. Moran, I, 6th Cav.; J. Stickles, C, 12th Inf.

*Two Years.*—W. L. Wiseman, G, 6th Cav.; J. B. Dungledine, I, 12th Inf.; J. F. Griffiths, A, 6th Cav.; E. C. Brodgon, B, 18th Inf.; J. Murphy, I, 21st Inf.; M. P. Kelly, Genl. Ser. Recruit; D. B. Kennedy, C, 10th Inf.; K. Zamosky, H, 5th Cav.; C. Sheller, H, 5th Cav.; T. Quill, F, 5th Inf.; S. Jones, G, 8th Inf.; E. Hamilton, D, 1st Cav.; T. H. Wilkes, G, 1st Inf.; M. Ryan, G, 12th Inf.

*Three Years.*—R. B. Cooper, C, 6th Cav.; G. Anderson, L, 4th Cav.; G. King, E, 7th Cav.; E. Clarke, A, 23d Inf.; M. C. Brown, I, 21st Inf.; G. P. Sherman, B, 4th Inf.; T. Grayson, B, 9th Cav.; D. Bell, A, 23d Inf.; M. Scherer, E, 3d Art.

*Four Years.*—S. Ash, E, 2d Cav.; J. N. Ogelby, F, 9th Inf.

*Five Years.*—S. D. Brady, H, 9th Cav.; C. C. Remington, G, 14th Inf.

#### Enlisted Men Released from Confinement.

J. Clark, K, 1st Art.; D. McGary, M, 2d Art.; J. Carroll, G, 4th Art.; J. Conners, G, 6th Cav.; G. Beard, C, 6th Cav.; H. Kivel, B, 19th Inf.; D. Lewis, K, 1st Art.; T. Doyle, M, 3d Art.; C. C. Dill, I, 8th Cav.; J. Crawford, I, 1st Cav.; G. Karleskind, K, 12th Inf.; J. C. Strong, E, 4th Art.

The following named military prisoners, entitled to an abatement of five days per month for continuous good conduct, have been discharged from the Ft. Leavenworth Mil. Prison: D. A. Good, C. Lee, E. Gorman, H. Clayton, J. Kelly, J. Fallon, H. S. Huntington, T. Mullin, J. M. Singer, K. Clubb, W. Brockway, J. Bright, J. O'Neil, J. Parsons, W. Jackson, R. B. Garbrey, G. W. Bailey, W. L. Boyce, T. Morris, J. Dancoche, E. Bailey, S. H. McNally; F. Rarick, G, 19th Inf.

#### SOME PERSONAL ITEMS.

LIEUT. C. C. Cusick, 2d U. S. Infantry, stationed at Fort Brady, Mich., has prepared, at his own expense, plans and specifications for a monument to the memory of Major-General Anthony Wayne, for the erection of which efforts are now being made in the Pennsylvania Legislature. The design for the monument is spoken of as being very beautiful and appropriate.

GEN. THOCHU is about to bring out a new book on the French army. He thinks that great progress has been made, but that the military edifice is still somewhat top-heavy.

GEN. SHERMAN and Jeff. Davis left Vicksburg, Miss., on the same train, and in mentioning the fact the *Vicksburg Herald* says: "A friend of Mr. Davis remarked to him that he would have good company to travel with in the person of Gen. Sherman, and the ex-President" replied: "Well, I suppose there is room enough on the cars for both of us."

CETTYWATO is described as a man of great ability and force of character, frank and straightforward in all his dealings. The London dailies seem to generally agree that Lord Chelmsford is responsible for the Zulu disaster, being both surprised and deceived.

The London *Army and Navy Gazette* says: "Sir S. Baker's edition of 'Halleck's International Law' is a most useful study for officers proceeding on a campaign, and, being written by a soldier, it naturally treats on subjects more interesting to the soldier. The Admiralty have adopted it for the Navy, and it would be well if the War Office would follow suit, and issue it to the Army stations and to corps, etc., proceeding on active service."

PROF. WILLIAMS, of Yale College, who has been twenty-one years Secretary of the United States Legation in China, is regarded as the best authority on the Chinese question in this country. He tells a reporter that the Chinese will never come here to stay, and will never come in large numbers. All those who have come during the twenty-five years that our gates have been open to them—about 200,000—have come from a district not as large as Connecticut, called Kwang-tung. It contains the City of Canton. They are of the middle class, rather than the lower. No slaves have been brought here. The California companies have not brought any coolies here."

SOME one who has recently visited Mount Vernon and the grave of Washington writes to the papers to express his astonishment with the slip-shod way in which the house and its contents are kept. The building is not in repair, the relics of Washington are carelessly kept, and the walls are covered with cheap prints and chromos, "having no claims either to artistic excellence or historical value."

At the annual general meeting of the British Royal Astronomical Society, recently held, the gold medal of the association was presented to Professor Asaph Hall, of the Naval Observatory, at Washington, for his discovery and observations of the satellites of Mars. This medal is the highest mark of esteem in the gift of the society.

COL. WATSON C. SQUINE, of Remington and Sons, has just returned from a visit to the city of Mexico, where he was the recipient of various attention from the officials of the Mexican government and others.

We regret to learn by a despatch from Newport, R. I., that Gen. Thos. W. Sherman, U. S. A., is lying dangerously ill at his residence in that city. His disease is pneumonia, the result of a severe cold contracted in New York. Mrs. Sherman, who has long been seriously ill of cancer and consumption, died on the 12th. She was a daughter of the late Wilson H. Shannon, Governor of Ohio and also of Kansas. The General, who is now on the retired list, lost a leg in the Red River campaign during the war. It is stated that at the time General Sherman entered the Army he applied to his father, Elisha Sherman, a farmer at Newport, for permission to enter the Service, but being refused left home, crossed over to the Narragansett shore and tramped to New York, in order that he might appear before the Examining Board, his father having refused to give him money to pay the fare.

GEN. SHERMAN has returned to Washington, and is busy disposing of accumulated business requiring his attention. At New Orleans he was formally received by the King of the Carnival, and was dubbed and decorated "Duke of Louisiana." The General, responding to the speech of the Lord High Chamberlain, said that he felt honored in being so distinguished by the king, and particularly by being so cordially received by those who had worn the gray. He accepted the title of duke with pride and pleasure. It was known, he said, that as a citizen of Louisiana he was one of the last to respond to the call of arms, but that as a soldier and a patriot he saw but one course, and that was to enroll himself as a defender of the common flag of our country. From that time until the war closed there was not a day nor an hour in which he did not think of Louisiana and her people. Gen. J. B. Hood was at the same time dubbed Duke of Texas. He too, said, had often met Gen. Sherman before and since the war, and particularly since the war he had met him with the most unalloyed pleasure. He hailed with delight the sentiments expressed on both sides. He assured Gen. Sherman that the sentiments of the carnival court and its spokesmen were the bona fide sentiments of the whole people of Louisiana; that this Carnival Association represented the wealth, intelligence and integrity of the State.

CONDENSED HISTORY.—[Oakland (Cal.) *Times*, Feb. 21.]—One hundred and forty-seven years ago to-morrow the doctor removed his spectacles and said: "My dear Mrs. Washington, it's a boy!"

EX-SENATOR SARGENT has accepted an invitation from the officers of the *Saratoga* to be their guest on her cruise to the Azores and Madeira. The *Saratoga* will sail from Hampton Roads about the 1st of April.

THE night of Gen. McPherson's death, Gen. Sherman is reported as saying: "I thought McPherson would be the man to close out this war. Grant and I are pretty sure to be knocked over before it is done, either by the enemy or public opinion; we will both make some mistake which will set us aside, and I had looked on McPherson as the man to conduct our armies to the end of the war. He is a great loss."

GEN. SHERIDAN has received from Ben Clark, the interpreter and scout at Fort Reno, a handsome Indian bow, arrows, and quiver, as a trophy for Headquarters.

GEN. GRANT is described as waxing eloquent, one night on the

Red Sea steamer, on the theme of our medical service during the war, and the modest heroism of the medical staff.

JEFFERSON's home, Monticello, is to be sold by auction, March 9th.

THE Board of Managers of the National Soldiers' Homes met last week at the Surgeon General's office. The officers elected for the ensuing year were Gen. Butler, President; Gov. Smyth, Vice President; and Gen. Martindale, Secretary. It was decided to build a new hospital at the Milwaukee Home at an expense of \$30,000, and a new restaurant at the Dayton Home. There are now at the four Homes over 8,000 inmates, a larger number than have ever been on the rolls.

A BILL introduced in the Kentucky House seeks to set apart the Hermitage for the perpetual use of Mrs. Sarah York Jackson, wife of Andrew Jackson, Jr., the adopted son of "Old Hickory," and her heirs forever. Mrs. Jackson now lives alone with her son, Colonel Andrew Jackson, at the Hermitage. She is past seventy years of age and is quite feeble.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Philadelphia *Times* says that on one occasion during the war, Gen. Hooker, then commanding the Army of the Potomac, rode over to Gen. Averill's headquarters to pay him a visit. The matter under consideration was the dash of Fitz Lee, and Gen. Averill was considerably nettled that the tally was against him and his own regiment, whose reputation had given him his star. As the interview ended and General Hooker was about to retire, he said: "Well, general, we have not had many dead cavalrymen laying about lately!" From this emanated the many Army jokes about a "dead cavalryman." The remark was not intended to be offensive or derisive, although this is almost the only use that has ever been made of it.

THE death of Shere Ali is reported to have severed the ties between the Afghans and Russians.

GENERAL GRANT and his party arrived at Calcutta, March 10. He is the guest of the Viceroy at Government House. Some railroad gondolas are developing a plan for an excursion from Washington to San Francisco to welcome the General on his return. From fifty to seventy five thousand are mentioned as the probable number, with 125 trains of ten cars each. A portrait of Gen. Grant, by Ulke, has been purchased for the White House.

COUNT VON MOLTKE, Chief Marshal of the German Empire and Chief of the General Staff, on Saturday, March 8, celebrated in Holstein the sixtieth anniversary of his entry into the military service. He received congratulations from all quarters.

In his letter to M. Rouher, announcing his departure to fight the Zulus, young Napoleon says: "In France, where, thank heaven, party spirit has not extinguished the military spirit, people will comprehend that I am anxious to share the fatigues and dangers of those troops among whom I have so many comrades."

THE following named officers have been ordered to report for examination for retirement to the Retiring Board, now in session: Capt. R. C. Parker, 13th Infantry; Charles Steelhammer, 15th Infantry; Oscar Hagen, 9th Cavalry; W. H. Andrews, 3d Cavalry; E. W. Ward, 5th Cavalry; John D. Devin, 9th Infantry; Deane Monahan, 3d Cavalry; William O'Connell, 4th Cavalry; Andrew P. Carraher, 8th Cavalry; and 1st Lieut. Charles C. Cresson, 1st Cavalry.

A. C. HOLTON, a railroad engineer, who, on Dec. 18, 1875, ran off the express car on the St. Louis, Kansas City, and N. R. R., and robbed it, has been found by detectives serving as an enlisted man, and company cook, at Fort Omaha, Neb.

COL. BONIE is reported as referring to the Navy Department, in speaking of his hundred days there, as "that hole."

THE *Herald* correspondent reports that Col. Fred. Grant "has laid out a campaign of tiger shooting and has compiled a list of friends, including General Sheridan and most of the commissioned officers in the Military Division of the Missouri, to whom on his return he purposes presenting his tiger skins." Meanwhile he has been viewing with interest an English officer, on board the steamer on which he journeyed down the Red Sea, who had his leg chewed up by a tiger who objected to being killed.

THE following officers registered at the War Department for the two weeks ending March 11: Col. A. T. Lee, retired; Lieut. J. C. Santing, 2d Artillery; Lieut. H. H. Wright, 9th Cavalry; Captain C. A. Woodruff, 2d Artillery; Major J. W. Wham, Paymaster; Lieut. M. C. Wilkinson, 3d Infantry; Lieut. E. Rice, 5th Infantry; Lieut. E. L. Huggins, 2d Artillery; Major M. A. Reno, 7th Cavalry; Lieut. C. A. H. McCauley, 3d Cavalry; Capt. W. W. Sanders, 6th Inf.; Lieut. F. M. Gibson, 7th Cavalry; Lieut. Col. E. A. Carr, 5th Cavalry; Capt. C. J. Dickey, 2d Infantry; Col. E. W. Hinks, retired; Colonel D. Floyd Jones, 3d Infantry; Capt. G. B. Case, U. S. A.; Lieut. C. M. Carrow, 7th Cavalry; Lieut. W. H. Nelson, 7th Infantry; Lieut. L. A. Abbott, 6th Cavalry.

THE following officers registered at the Ebbitt House for the two weeks ending March 11: Gen. W. T. Sherman, U. S. A.; Lieut. M. P. Maus, 1st Infantry; Gen. J. G. Barnard, U. S. Engineers; Ensign L. Young, U. S. Navy; Major M. A. Reno, U. S. A.; Lieut. H. Rowan, 2d Artillery; Mid. W. D. Rose, U. S. N.; Dr. W. Martin, U. S. N.; Capt. C. A. Woodruff, 2d Artillery; Lieut. R. E. Whitman, 3d Cavalry; Medical Director S. F. Copes, U. S. Navy; Capt. C. A. Woodruff, 2d Artillery; W. L. Elliott, U. S. Army; Lieut. Alfred Reynolds, 20th Infantry; Lieut. B. N. Waters, 15th Infantry; Mid. H. Rodman, U. S. Navy; Lieutenant Bainbridge Reynolds, 3d Cavalry; Mid. E. M. Katz, U. S. Navy; Ensign B. A. Flack, U. S. Navy; Major Anson Mills, 10th Cavalry.

WE learn that the band of the 3d U. S. Artillery will play, until further orders, at Governor's Island, N. Y., every Thursday afternoon from 4 to 6 p. m.

QUEEN VICTORIA, it is rumored, has expressed a strong wish to see Canada, and the Prince of Wales is encouraging her to visit both that country and the United States.

THE following Army and Navy officers were reported in New York City during past week: Lieut.-Commander John Schouler, U. S. N., St. James' Hotel; Lieut.-Commander D. C. Woodrow, U. S. N., Sturtevant House; Gen. Stewart Van Vliet, U. S. A., Hoffman House; Lieut. G. M. Wheeler, Corps of Engineers, Gilsey House; General A. J. Myer, U. S. A., 5th Avenue Hotel; Major-Gen. John M. Schofield,

U. S. A., 5th Avenue Hotel; Prof. J. E. Nourse, U. S. N., Astor House.

GEN. W. F. SMITH, president of the Board of Police Commissioners, New York, has addressed a letter to the Mayor, in which he says: "The defamatory statements of a scandal monger, set forth in the 300 pages you have sent me, are entitled to notice on my part solely by reason of the fact that they have been made to you as Mayor of this city. I notice them only to say this: Mr. Erhardt's representations, so far as they concern me, are characterized throughout by falsehood or perverseness; wherever they are not false they are perverted to false conclusions." This refers to the testimony given before the Mayor by Commissioner Erhardt, as to alleged delinquencies on the part of Gen. Smith; intoxication and neglect of duty being the burden of the statement.

COL. ANSON MILLS, Major 10th Cavalry, arrived at Washington, March 11, from duty at the Exposition of Paris. The Colonel and Mrs. Mills were detained some time in Paris, we understand, on account of the advent of a son, who was born there only a few months since.

THE N. Y. *Times*, of March 12th, says: "A cable despatch from Naples announces the death there, March 10th, of Mr. Joshua Stetson, a young gentleman of Boston, who had been passing several years in Europe, preparing himself for a literary career which promised to be successful. Mr. Stetson, who was in his twenty-fifth year at the time of his death, was graduated from Harvard College three years ago, and there gave evidence of a remarkable aptitude for literary pursuits. He was one of the editors of the spirited college paper known as the *Crimes*; afterward the editor of the *Harvard Lampoon*, an illustrated comic and satirical paper started and run by the students, which speedily gained a good reputation outside of the university. Mr. Stetson was the eldest son of the late Joshua Stetson, a prominent merchant of Boston, and a nephew of the Messrs. Church, of this city, known as editors of the *Galaxy* during its existence, and of the *ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL*, and was a young man from whom much was expected by those who knew him both during and after his college career."

A SPECIAL meeting of the Washington Branch of the U. S. Naval Institute was held at the Navy Department at 8 P. M., on Thursday, March 13, when a paper on "The Navigation of the China Seas" was read by Lieutenant Zera L. Tanner, U. S. N.

FIRST LIEUTENANT S. K. ALLEN, U. S. M. C., and wife are at San Mateo, Putnam Co., Florida, for the benefit of the mild climate, which has greatly improved Lieut. Allen's health. He has sick leave for one year.

MR. JOSEPH T. ADDICKS, of the Pay Corps U. S. Navy, has recently been married, choosing for his partner an English lady, Miss Leighton.

THOMAS BLAIR has been indicted in Kentucky for bigamy, of which he was convicted by Court-martial, but has escaped the Governor's requisition by leaving the country.

#### RECENT ACTS OF CONGRESS.

CONGRESS at its last session passed acts placing on the retired list Francis O. Wyse as Lieutenant-colonel, and Lewis Leffman, Ordnance Sergt., U. S. A.; restoring to the Army Michael O'Brien, 1st Lieutenant, 1st Artillery; Thos. B. Hunt, Captain and A. Q. M. Also an act ordering a court of inquiry in the case of Major Granville O. Heller, and acts for the relief of Jenkins A. Fitzgerald, Asst. Surgeon, U. S. A.; 1st Lieut. T. T. Knox, formerly Q. M. 1st Cavalry, and an act authorizing the appointment of Dr. Junius L. Powell an Asst. Surgeon, U. S. Army.

Acts were also passed giving Bushrod B. Taylor and other officers a re-hearing for promotion; for the relief of Lieut. Geo. W. Wells, Marine Corps (retired), Henry M. Meade, late Paymaster U. S. N., and Commander Wm. Gibson, U. S. N.

Besides the appropriation bills the general legislation included acts to abolish the Volunteer Navy; authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to transfer to the Secretary of the Interior for entry and sale all lands in the State of Florida not needed for naval purposes, and to accept for the purposes of a voyage of exploration by way of Behring Straits the ship *Jeanette*, tendered by James Gordon Bennett for that purpose. An act appropriating one million dollars to enable the Secretary of War to erect headstones over the graves of Union soldiers who have been interred in private, village, or city cemeteries; preserving in the records of the W. D. "the names and places of burial of all soldiers for whom such headstones shall have been erected, by authority of this or any former acts." An act to repeal section 1293, R. S., providing for the detail of company cooks, and an act punishing by fine and imprisonment officers and their assistants, who shall embezzle public funds or wrongfully convert public property.

Bills were passed granting pensions to the widows of Major W. Slivey, Rear-Admiral Stringham, Gen. Charles Thomas, Major A. S. Hooe, Capt. J. Gallagher, Asst. Inspector-Gen. Totten; General Horatio Gates, 3d Artillery; Lieut. Frailey, 7th Cavalry; General Robert Anderson; Captain Frank Monroe, Marine Corps; Colgate Mullany, commandant, Marine Corps, and Rear-Admiral Lanman, and to the mother of the late Captain James B. Semple, 15th Inf.

Acts were also passed removing the political disabilities of F. E. Shepperd and R. L. Page, of Virginia, formerly of the Navy, and of W. B. Sinclair, of Virginia, formerly of the Army.

This is a summary of the legislation of the session, of which we have given an account from week to week. We give below the text of the other acts also passed:

An ACT relating to soldiers while in the civil service of the United States.

Be it enacted, etc., That all persons who, under and by virtue of the first section of the act entitled "An act supplementary to the several acts relating to pensions," approved March 3, 1865, were deprived of their pensions during any portion of the time from the third of March, 1865, to the sixth of June, 1866, by reason of their being in the civil service of the United States, shall be paid their said pensions, withheld by virtue of said section of the act aforesaid, for and during the said period of time from the third of March, 1865, to the sixth of June, 1866.

Approved March 1, 1879.

An ACT to provide that all pensions on account of death, or wounds received, or disease contracted in the service of the United States during the late war of the rebellion, which have been granted, or which shall hereafter be granted, shall commence from the date of death or discharge from the service of the United States; for the payment of arrears of pensions, and other purposes.

Be it enacted, etc., That all pensions which have been granted under the general laws regulating pensions, or may hereafter be granted, in consequence of death from a cause which originated in the United States service during the continuance of the late war of the rebellion, or in consequence of wounds, injuries or disease received or contracted in said war of the rebellion, shall commence from the date of the death or discharge from said service of the person on whose account the claim has been or shall hereafter be granted, or from the termination of the right of the party having prior title to such pensions: Provided, The rate of pension for the intervening time for which arrears of pension are hereby granted shall be the same per month for which the pension was originally granted.

Sec. 2. That the Commissioner of Pensions is hereby authorized and directed to adopt such rules and regulations for the payment of the arrears of pensions hereby granted as will be necessary to cause to be paid to such pensioners, or if the pensioners shall have died, to the person or persons entitled to the same, all such arrears of pension as the pensioner may be, or would have been, entitled to under this act.

Sec. 3. That section forty-seven hundred and seventeen of the Revised Statutes of the United States, which provides that "no claim for pension not prosecuted to a successful issue within five years from the date of filing the same shall be admitted without record evidence from the War or Navy Department of the injury or disease which resulted in the disability or death of the person on whose account the claim is made: Provided, That in any case in which the limitation prescribed by this section bars the further prosecution of the claim, the claimant may present, through the Pension Office, to the Adjutant-General of the Army or the Surgeon-General of the Navy, evidence that the disease or injury which resulted in the disability or death of the person on whose account the claim is made originated in the service and in the line of duty; and if such evidence is deemed satisfactory by the officer to whom it may be submitted, he shall cause a record of the fact so proved to be made, and a copy of the same to be transmitted to the Commissioner of Pensions, and the bar to the prosecution of the claim shall thereby be removed," be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

Sec. 4. No claim agent or other person shall be entitled to receive any compensation for services in making application for arrears of pension.

Sec. 5. That all acts or parts of acts, so far as they may conflict with the provisions of this act, be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Approved, January 25, 1879.

An ACT to amend the act entitled "An act to provide for furnishing trusses to disabled soldiers," approved May twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two.

Be it enacted, etc., That section one of the act entitled "An act to provide for furnishing trusses to disabled soldiers," approved May 28th, 1872, be, and the same is hereby, amended so that said section shall read as follows: That every soldier of the Federal Army, or petty-officer, seaman, or marine in the naval service, who was ruptured while in the line of duty during the late war for the suppression of the rebellion, or who shall be so ruptured thereafter in any war, shall be entitled to receive a single or double truss of such style as may be designated by the Surgeon-General of the United States Army as best suited for such disability; and whenever the said truss or trusses so furnished shall become useless from wear, destruction or loss, such soldier, petty-officer, seaman, or marine shall be supplied with another truss on making a like application as provided for in section two of the original act of which this is an amendment: Provided, That such application shall not be made more than once in two years and six months: And provided further, That sections two and three of the said act of May 28th, 1872, shall be construed so as to apply to petty-officers, seamen, and marines of the naval service, as well as to soldiers of the Army.

Approved March 3, 1879.

The Sundry Civil Service bill, approved March 3, 1879, appropriates \$375,000 for the Supply Service, \$90,000 for construction, etc., of military telegraph lines, \$15,000 for Springfield and \$27,000 for Rock Island, Arsenal; \$5,000 for a wharf at Benicia Arsenal, California, \$30,000 for repair of smaller arsenals, \$800 for removal of remains of W. E. English, late 1st Lieut. and U. S. Inf. Regt., \$25,000 for completion of survey of N. and N. W. Lakes, \$50,000 for furniture for new War Department building, \$16,000 for expenses of military convicts in penitentiaries, \$44,000 for continuing preparation and publication of Rebellion records, both Union and Confederate, \$67,440 for support of Leavenworth Military prison, and with it a clause directing the Secretary of War to cause to be fabricated at the prison supplies for the Army as can be properly and economically manufactured there; \$4,750 for Artillery School, Fort Monroe; \$34,000 for completion of barracks at Fort Monroe; \$40,000 for new military post at Pagosa Springs, N. M.; \$2,391.67 for rent of headquarters building at San Antonio; \$100,000 for artificial limbs; \$1,000 for surgical appliances for disabled soldiers and sailors; \$25,000 for rebuilding quarters at Madison Bks, destroyed by fire; \$36,500 for repair of roads between Fort Monroe and Mill Creek; \$10,000 for completion of military road from Alamosa, Col., to Pagosa Springs; \$10,000 for repair of military road from Scottsburg to Camp Stewart, Oregon; \$100,000 for buildings at Fort Snelling, Minn., for Headquarters Department of Dakota; \$300,000 for payment of arrears of Army transportation; \$75,000 for stone dock at Navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal.; \$300,000 for repairs and preservation of Navy-yards; \$5,000 for experiments by Secretary of Navy as to velocity of light; \$3,425 for U. S. Naval Observatory; \$1,210.16 for bounty claims for destruction of enemy's vessels; \$50,000 for furniture for new buildings of Navy Department; \$50,000 for repairs to rope walk building at Boston Navy-yard; \$748.10 to J. H. Clalborne, due him by Navy Department; \$7,355 for repairs to U. S. ship *Antietam*, so as to provide for the marines at the League Island Station. The bill provides for the sale of the Pikesville Arsenal, Maryland: Provided, That if the State of Maryland shall, prior to the 1st of January, 1880, accept the same, it is hereby granted and donated to said State, to be used for such militia or other purposes as the necessities of the State may require. An important item in the bill is that by which the President is authorized to appoint a Director of the Geological Survey, to be under the Interior Department at a salary of \$6,000, and appropriating \$30,000 for the expense of a Commission on the codification of existing laws relating to the survey and disposition of the public domain, said Commission to consist of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, the Director of the Geological Survey, and three civilians, said civilians to receive \$10 per day and travelling expenses. The Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories and of the Rocky Mountain region, under the Interior Department, and the Geographical Survey west of the 100th meridian are to be discontinued June 30, 1879.

THE DEFICIENCY BILL.—In the act approved March 3, 1879, making appropriations to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1879, are included the following: Authorising the Secretary of War to issue arms and ammunition at the request of the head of any department, whenever they may be required for the protection of public money and property; to be returned when the necessity for their use has expired.

For pay and travelling and general expenses of the Army, \$700,000.

To enable Secretary of Navy to pay certain contingent expenses of Bureaus of Provisions and Clothing for 1878-9, \$2,505 27-100. For pay of mechanics, purchase of flags, drum heads, etc., by Quartermaster's Department, Marine Corps, \$1,500. For Pay Department, Marine Corps, to pay clerks and messengers, undrawn clothing, etc., \$8,939 47-100.

Commissions to Leight Bros. and Phelps, Norfolk, Va., on sale of U. S. ships *Macedonia* and *Saint Florence*, \$479 56 100. John W. Bigelow for provisions for Navy, \$15,375 40 100; W. Cramp and Sons for iron furnished Bureau of Construction, Navy Department, in 1874-5, \$12,353 41-100. A. H. Lindsay, for timber furnished Navy Department, \$7,830 51-100. Incidental expenses, Quartermaster's Department, U. S. Army, 1877, \$3,078 07 100; for 1878, \$3,102 05 100. Army transportation, supplies and incidental expenses of the Army, including claims of Union Pacific, the Central Pacific, the Kansas Pacific, the Western Pacific, and the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad Company, \$97,497 40 100. For horses and other property lost in Military service, \$58,172 21-100. For Ordnance, Ordnance stores and supplies, \$811 36 100. For Ordnance service, \$230. For expenses of recruiting, \$34 30 100. For transportation of officers and other baggage, \$177 90-100. For pay of the Army, \$15,123 40 100. Indemnity to seamen, U. S. Navy, for lost clothing, \$720. For expenses of burial of officers and others of the U. S. steamer *Huron*, \$412 77-100. For bounty gratuity and mileage to seamen, \$1,356 80-100.

## THE NAVY.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, President and Com'der-in-Chief.

RICHARD W. THOMPSON, Secretary of the Navy.

JOHN W. HOGG, Chief Clerk.

#### VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

THE *Alaska*, Captain Geo. Brown, commanding, arrived at San Francisco, Cal., March 11, from Panama.

The *Richmond* sailed from Villefranche, Feb. 23, for Port Said. All well on board.

THE *Saratoga* got out of the mud at Washington, Jan. 7, at 7 A. M., and arrived at Hampton Roads the next day at noon, making the passage under sail.

The *Keersarge* has been reported ready in all departments but steam engineering; that will require about three weeks. This little ship has been thoroughly overhauled and refitted, and is a fine specimen of her class. She has a complete set of new boilers. It is thought that she may be put in commission about May next.

WORK has begun upon the *Guard*; her hatches have been opened, and after being exposed to the cold weather for two days, her cargo, consisting of stores from Rio, is being landed under the supervision of Asst. Paymaster C. J. Lewis, her former paymaster.

PAY INSPECTOR J. N. CARPENTER, having been retired from disability incurred in the line of duty, vacancies are thereby created for a Pay Inspector, a Paymaster, a Passed Assistant Paymaster and an Assistant Paymaster. A board has been ordered to examine Paymaster Edwin Stewart for Pay Inspector. Passed Assistant Paymaster J. B. Redfield is entitled to promotion to Paymaster and Assistant Paymaster Geo. E. Baughman to Passed Assistant.

A BOARD of Officers, Comdr. R. F. Bradford being senior member, was ordered to report on the condition of the wooden dry dock at Portsmouth, it having been reported as needing repairs. This structure was finished in 1852 at a cost of about \$900,000, and since that time 124 vessels have been docked and many of them hauled up on the railway, all without a single accident. It is estimated that about \$6,000 will fit the dock for use at the present time.

The *Pawtucket* is probably now at Puerto Cabello, Spanish Main. Since leaving Norfolk she has visited San Juan de Porto Rico, St. Thomas, Fredericksburg, Port au Prince, Havana and Key West. Rear Adm. Wyman was invited to meet Marshal Martinez Campe, Captain General of Cuba, who arrived at San Juan de Porto Rico, February 10, en route to Spain. Every expression of friendly feeling towards the United States was expressed. The *Pawtucket* left San Juan February 11, and arrived same day at St. Thomas, sailed next morning for Fredericksburg. Feb. 21 she arrived at Port au Prince and sailed same evening for Havana, arriving there on the 24th. She sailed on the 26th for Key West, took in coal and proceeded to Puerto Cabello. Health of all on board good.

FULL accounts have been received by mail from Captain Badger, dated at Lisbon, Feb. 20, of the accident to the *Constitution*, which caused her to go into that port. The accident occurred in Lat. 46 deg. 30m., Long. 16 deg. 41m. W. Captain Badger was endeavoring to get South, in order to pass to the Westward of Madeira, between that island and the Azores, not intending to touch anywhere. The accident occurred in the height of a trying gale, and it was with great difficulty the rudder was secured. The rudder chains parted in a few minutes after getting them on board. By great exertion and daring on the part of some of the crew the rudder was secured, and additional chains were put on it, enabling the vessel to get into port 575 miles distant. The rudder was an old one, causing the head to be twisted off in a furious gale. Repairs would be made as soon as possible and the vessel proceed on her course.

A COURT-MARTIAL, of which Captain John G. Walker, U. S. N., was President, convened at the Navy Yard, Boston, on Tuesday, March 11, for the trial of Gunner George Dunn, U. S. N., on the charge of drunkenness. The *Plymouth* has been ordered from Boston to the West Indies and Aspinwall. She hauled out into the stream on Wednesday, March 12. The *Vandalia*, now at Boston, is nearly ready for sea, and will probably receive her crew within the next ten days.

THE Board for the examination of the Acting Passed Assistant and Acting Assistant Surgeons, under the recent act to abolish the Volunteer Navy, will be convened at Washington about the middle of May. The Board will be the same as is now in session for the examination of candidates for admission into the Medical Corps, but will be reorganized under the provisions of the act above referred to. The members of that Board at present are Medical Director Geo. Peck, Medical Inspectors Thos. J. Turner and John C. Spear, Surgeons Newton L. Bates and John W. Coles. Any of the volunteer surgeons can appear before the Board if they desire, and undergo an examination as to the professional, moral and physical qualifications for admission into the Medical Corps of the Navy as Assistant Surgeons. It is understood that a notice will be sent to

each of them, in which they will be requested to indicate whether they will appear or not. The act does not, as has been supposed by some, give the privilege to these volunteer officers of appearing before a Retiring Board only. They must, if they appear at all, first go before the Examining Board.

CHIEF CONSTRUCTOR EASBY, Chief Clerk Hogg, and others, from the Navy Department, left on Wednesday, to be present at the launching of the new sloop-of-war *Galena*, at Norfolk, on Thursday, March 13.

THE Sierra Leone, West Africa, *Reporter* of Jan. 29 says: "Commodore Shufeldt, of the U. S. flagship *Ticonderoga*, arrived in this port on the 15th inst., with a complete staff of scientific men for exploring and surveying work. The Commodore has been detained here by the question of the northwest boundary of Liberia soon to be discussed and settled by British and Liberian commissioners, and in which he has been requested to act as umpire if necessary." It continues:

We anticipate very important results to Africa and the United States from this novel expedition. This is, however, no new effort on the part of the United States Government to utilize its Navy for the advancement of science, of commerce, and of human well-being. "The history of the American Navy is interwoven with commercial enterprise upon the sea and linked to every act which has made the nation great. It suppressed piracy in the Mediterranean, even when the great nations of Europe were paying tribute to the Barbary Powers. It swept the West India islands and adjacent seas clear of the pirate hordes, which had hitherto defied England, France, and Spain. It opened the Empire of Japan to America and the world, started a new era in the East, and adding another nation to the great family of civilized peoples. It has left its imprint on every shore, no less in peace than in war. Wilkes in the South seas, Kane, Hartstene and De Heven in the Arctic regions; Berryman and Belknap defining telegraphic plateaus; Lull, Sill, Bridgeman, and Shufeldt piercing the Cordilleras in search of interoceanic routes; Herndon and Gibbons across the continent of South America and down the Amazon; Maury, the geographer of the seas, with his wind and current charts, making the paths of commerce plain to the commonest understanding; Jenkins, the founder of the lighthouse system, dotting the coast of America with its lights, buoys, and beacons, now as safe to the mariner as the gaslighted street to the wayfarer; the Coast Survey, with its unequalled charts and sailing directions for thousands of miles of shore and bay and river; Wyman, in the Hydrographic office, watching every discovery of shoal and rock upon the ocean and warning the somewhat heedless mariner of his danger."

The above is only a portion of the brilliant record of the American Navy, and we are persuaded that the present expedition of the *Ticonderoga* will add fresh laurels to the achievements of that illustrious Navy, and in a cause which, to us and perhaps to humanity generally, is of infinitely greater importance than South Sea discoveries or Arctic Investigations. Commodore Shufeldt's African expedition, unique of its kind, will leave a distinctive and wider impression upon this continent than any since the days of the Portuguese adventurers, who are accused by Dr. Livingstone of misleading the world as to certain portions of their discoveries in Africa in order to keep their knowledge to themselves for commercial purposes. American zeal and energy, however, will tear the veil asunder and admit the world.

A daring American has recently crossed the continent from east to west, through regions hitherto unknown to the civilized world, and has told of resources inexhaustible in variety and abundance; and it may be reserved for the youthful and energetic nation of the West to utilize more largely than any other the vast resources to which attention has been directed.

The comprehensive plans now being organized in Lancashire by English capitalists for the occupation for purposes of trade of the vast regions unfolded by Stanley, combined with the sagacious zeal of their cousins of the western hemisphere, will find outlets for the vast trade and to utilize those outlets by fleets of steamers from across the Atlantic will produce results in the proximate future which it is impossible for the most sanguine even to imagine. Intelligent Africans on all parts of the coast should be stimulated to contribute all their resources—intellectual, moral and pecuniary—to hasten those beneficial changes in the land of their fathers which are now impending.

#### NAVY GAZETTE

##### ORDERED.

MARCH 8.—Assistant Paymaster Charles M. Ray, to report for duty in the Bureau of Provisions and Clothing for instruction.

MARCH 10.—Lieutenant Jas. D. J. Kelly, to the Hydrographic Office on the 1st April.

Paymaster Henry Stewart, to examination for promotion.

MARCH 11.—Master Clinton H. Lyell, to duty at the Navy-yard, New York.

Cadet Engineer Wm. R. King, to duty in the Bureau of Steam Engineering.

##### DETACHED.

MARCH 10.—Lieutenant George A. Norris, from the Hydrographic Office, and ordered to the Nautical School Ship St. Mary's, at New York.

Acting Assistant Surgeon J. John Page, from the Nautical School Ship St. Mary's, and placed on sick leave.

MARCH 11.—Passed Assistant Surgeon John W. Ross, from the Naval Hospital, Washington, and ordered to the Nautical School Ship St. Mary's, at New York.

##### LEAVE EXTENDED.

The leave of Captain A. A. Semmes, at present in Naples, Italy, has been extended one year from April 5.

##### LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Surgeon-General for the week ending March 12, 1879:

John Johnson, ordinary seaman, February 11, U. S. S. Wyoming, at Smyrna, Turkey.

John Sullivan, landsman, February 19, U. S. S. Trenton, at Villefranche, France.

#### CHANGES IN THE MARINE CORPS.

##### DETACHED.

Second Lieutenant Samuel J. Logan, from the Marine Barracks at Annapolis, Md., and ordered to command the marine guard on board the Portsmouth on her arrival at Washington.

##### LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED.

To First Lieutenant A. C. Kelton, for fourteen days from March 15 to 30.

##### LEAVE EXTENDED.

The leave of First Lieutenant Samuel Mercer has been extended fourteen days from March 23.

##### PLACED ON RETIRED LIST.

Colonel M. R. Kintzlin has been placed on the retired list from March 15, 1879, on his own application.

G. C.-M. O. No. 4, NAVY DEPT., WASHINGTON Feb. 24, 1879.

Announce the finding of a General Court-martial which convened at the Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va., Feb. 6, 1879, and of which Captain S. P. Quackenbush, U. S. N., was president, in the case of Private Thomas Moran, U. S. Marine Corps, found guilty of "Assaulting and wounding another person in the Navy," and sentenced "to be confined in such place as the Honorable Secretary of the Navy may designate, for the period of one year; to be allowed one

dollar per month during his confinement, and twenty-five dollars at the expiration of his confinement, and to forfeit, otherwise, all pay that may become due him during that time, amounting to \$119, and at the expiration of his confinement to be discharged from the U. S. Marine Corps." And in the case of Private Calvin M. Brown, U. S. Marine Corps, found guilty of "Assaulting another person in the Service, and resisting lawful authority," and sentenced "to be confined in such place as the Honorable Secretary of the Navy may designate, for the period of eight months; to lose six dollars and a half of his monthly pay during that time, amounting to \$52."

G. C.-M. O. No. 5, NAVY DEPT., WASHINGTON, Feb. 27, 1879.

Announce the finding of a General Court-martial which convened at the Navy-yard, New York, Jan. 30, 1879, and of which Captain D. L. Braine, U. S. N., is president, in the case of Private Bernard Coughlan, U. S. Mar. Corps, found not guilty of Charge I.—"Drunk on guard," but guilty of Charge II.—"Sleeping on post," and sentenced "to be confined in such place as the Honorable Secretary of the Navy may designate, for the period of one year; to lose the sum of \$12 per month during said confinement, amounting in all to \$144; and at the expiration of said confinement, to be dishonorably discharged from the service of the United States;" in the case of Fifer William J. Quinn, U. S. Marine Corps, found guilty of "Absent from duty without leave," and "Disobedience of the lawful orders of his superior officer," and sentenced "to be confined in such place as the Honorable Secretary of the Navy may designate, for the period of one year;" and in the case of Private Patrick Ford, U. S. Marine Corps, found guilty of "Leaving post before being regularly relieved," and sentenced "to be confined at such place as the Honorable Secretary of the Navy may designate, for the period of one year, and to lose during such confinement, \$10 per month, amounting in all to the sum of \$120; and at the expiration of his confinement to be dishonorably discharged from the service."

G. C.-M. O. No. 6, NAVY DEPT., WASHINGTON, Feb. 27, 1879.

Announce the findings of a General Court-martial which convened at the Navy-yard, Washington, D. C., Feb. 25, 1879, and of which Captain J. H. Russell, U. S. N., is president, in the case of Charles H. McKay, landsman, U. S. Navy, found guilty of "Desertion," and sentenced "to be confined in such place as the Honorable Secretary of the Navy may designate, for the period of one year, and that he be deprived of all pay which may become due him during his confinement, amounting to \$188, with the exception of \$30, to be paid him after his term of confinement shall have expired; and that he then be dishonorably discharged from the naval service."

The proceedings, findings, and sentences in these cases are approved, and the prison at the Marine Barracks, Brooklyn, New York, is designated as the place of confinement.

#### SAILORS, SOLDIERS AND WHISKEY.

THE story of Bob Stay in your JOURNAL of March 8 about the sailors and whiskey, and the story from the Chattanooga (Tenn.) *Commercial* in the same paper of how the soldiers of the 3d Artillery got drunk on permission to drink from a spring of water, reminds me of incidents of a similar nature of which I am personally cognizant.

When a midshipman in 1836 on board the frigate *United States* at Port Mahon (that's a frightful long time ago), the launch whenever sent to the head of the harbor for water came back with the crew invariably in a state of intoxication, making "Rome howl" as they say, along the decks of the old frigate, and inferring a more potent liquor had been imbibed by them. At last "Old Zach," the 1st luff, pitched upon your correspondent to represent the majesty of the *United States* and take command of the launch on a watering party, with strict injunctions for the men not to be allowed to leave the boat, and with threats of quarantine suspension and Courts martial to myself in charge, in case any of the crew came back to the ship intoxicated. With the over-confidence of a greenhorn I assured the 1st luff no such thing would happen while the men were under my charge. Off we started; arrived at the watering place I paid a dago out of my own pocket to lead the hose into the boat, and forbade the men to leave their seats in the boat, myself sitting complacently in the stern sheets watching them. I had not sat long before along came an old woman selling eggs, and the boat's crew asked permission to purchase from her for their messes, which I readily granted. Consequently the boat's crew came alongside of the frigate, plashing their oars out of time and howling drunk. They were of course consigned to the brig, while your humble servant was sent below, "quarantined until further orders." The eggs, it is almost needless to tell you, had been pricked, emptied, and refilled with *aqua ardente*.

On another occasion, when I was a lieutenant on board the *St. Louis* in 1843, we stopped in the Straits of Sunda to water ship, where the water came leaping down from the hills in a cataract. There were no houses or natives near at hand, and yet after every watering party the boat's crews and many more on board would be found intoxicated. At last the officer of the deck, old Marmaduke D—e, smelt a rat, and ordering the boat's crew out of the boat, sent other men in, and directed all the water in the casks to be started overboard, when there leaped through the bung holes one skin of liquor, and then another and another. The secret was revealed! By preconcerted arrangement the natives had gone a mile or more into the interior and started skins (like those used for stuffing sausage meat) filled with liquor down the mountain stream, to be emptied into the watering casks.

On another occasion, at Port Mahon, a large quantity of a composition for blacking the rigging had been mixed with whiskey. The quartermasters and quarter gunners in charge managed to get drunk off the compound by waiting to let the other ingredients settle and then skimming the liquor from the top. I remember a similar occurrence at Indian Key during the Florida war in 1843, which did not end so fortunately—the "old salt" being poisoned, and on his dying bed calling upon his comrades to take warning. I have been told of a similar story where a guest of the American House, New York, made a similar mistake when his coppers were hot, and raised a great outcry that he was poisoned, etc., which called Junius Boyle of the Navy to the scene, who after looking at the victim of misplaced confidence a minute, suggested putting a wick in him and burning him out.

On still another occasion I started in charge of a draft of 250 men from Boston for New York. A special train to Fall River and boat was engaged, and omnibuses took the men from the receiving ship at the Navy-yard to the depot. Each omnibus was guarded by a warranted officer or sergeant of marines, yet on crossing to the depot, men on horseback rode along

beside the omnibuses, pitching bottles of liquor into them at a venture. I believe, however, all were caught by the officers and emptied on the pavement.

That, however, is not what I started to tell. When we got on board the boat which was to take us to New York, the *State of Maine*, I believe, Capt. Jewett, we found a nice supper had been provided for us officers, but before we were invited down to eat it, it was appropriated by our sailor charge. And that was not all, for falling upon a jug of camphine, and thinking it gin, they took a light drink all around and emptied it of its contents before finding out their mistake. Then there were gripings of the stomach and visits to the wheel houses which had better be left untold. U. S. N.

IN our last number we gave a brief synopsis of a lecture on the relative importance of "Broadside and End-on Fire Tactically Considered," delivered by Vice-Admiral G. G. Randolph, C. B., before the English United Service Institution. The lecture, or rather the subject of the lecture, has excited much discussion in the London service papers. The *United Service Gazette* says: The naval architect will say, as Mr. Scott Russell has so often said to naval officers: "Tell me what you want and I will set to work to provide it." We have had many attempts at defining what a man-of-war should be, and they have borne good fruit. The most important contribution towards this end was the report of Lord Dufferin's committee, which, however, sat nearly ten years ago. But we have hitherto never approached the subject from the naval tactician's point of view. The argument has been entirely deductive. Assume end-on fire to be all important, and a certain class of ship is produced. It is only quite recently, and mainly as we believe, through the bold initiative of Captain Colombe in opposition to "end-on" fire that we have had attention directed to the importance of investigating this question. Admiral Randolph's opinion is a valuable one, but we are not yet satisfied. He sees little advantages in electric broadsides, quoting the undermentioned lines as a pleasing dream:

"A finger's pressure, nothing more,  
The ponderous cannon's thundering roar;  
A passing cloud of smoke, and lo!  
The waves engulf the haughty foe."

THE shares of the Suez Canal, which had sold as low as \$20 each, are now quoted at \$143, giving England a profit of five million dollars on the 176,602 shares she bought at \$117 each. The canal cost \$92,273,907. The expenses have been a little over \$8,400,000, and while they are decreasing or stationary the revenue has advanced in 1877 from \$1,000,000 in 1870 to over \$6,000,000. Deducting the amount paid for interest and the sinking fund, the actual expenses are about \$1,900,000 annually. The cost of cleaning the canal and its accessories is only about \$4,000,000 per annum. The small comparative cost of maintaining the canal arises from the fact that there are no locks or lateral embankments to be broken. Except the ordinary cleaning there is little to be done. Vessels drawing twenty-five feet of water or less pass through the canal. The saving of distance to the British ships going to India is nearly five thousand miles. Two-thirds of all the vessels passing through the canal carry the English flag. Monsieur Ferdinand Lesseps, who has been at the head of the enterprise since its beginning in 1854, expresses the opinion that the Panama Canal must be constructed without locks to be successful or remunerative. These facts are reported by Mr. Fairman, our consul at Cairo.

THE recent launch of the *Orion* adds another valuable iron-clad to the British navy. She is a sister ship of the *Belleisle*, formerly the *Payki Sherref*. They were designed by Ahmed Pasha, a distinguished officer of the Turkish Admiralty, and are each 245 feet long by 52 feet broad, 4,717 tons displacement, with 19 feet 3 inches mean draft. The armor is 10 and 12 inches, with 12 feet 8 inches teak backing. The armor below the water is 8 inches, and the minimum protection for their guns is 6 inches. Before a shot or shell can reach the magazine or shell rooms it has to penetrate the 12 inches armor, 8 inches backing, and about 10 feet of coals. All the machinery and boilers are placed below the water line, and protected by a 3 inch deck, also by coals in bunkers at the wings. They carry 300 tons of coal, which will drive them at full speed for about three and a half days, or a distance of nearly 11,000 miles. Their armament consists of four 25-ton guns, two of which command a fire right ahead and two right astern; besides which two can be fired on either broadside at will, the fire converging at 100 yards. Ahmed Pasha has displayed considerable ingenuity in the arrangement of engines, boilers, and magazines in these vessels. The cost of each vessel, with fittings and armor, is \$1,650,000, one-third of the *Inflexible*.

A GIGANTIC picture representing the battle of Waterloo is in course of execution at Brussels. The canvas measures no less than 115 metres in circumference and 144 metres in height, so that its superficies represents 16,671 square metres.

LIEUT. COMMANDER CHAS. F. BLAKE, a retired officer of the Navy, died at North Platte, Neb., Feb. 20, aged 35 years. He entered the Naval Academy, Oct. 26, 1859, from the State of Massachusetts, in which he was born, continuing at the Academy two years, when the outbreak of the war called him into active service. He served during the war on the *Mississippi*, and *Constellation*, in the Mediterranean Squadron. He was afterwards attached to the Gulf Squadron, and participated in the battle of Mobile Bay. His last service was at the Naval Academy. He was retired in 1871, taking up his residence at Otumwa, III.

PROF. MORDECAI YARNALL, who has been on the retired list of the Navy since 1877, died at his residence in Georgetown, D. C., of apoplexy, on the last day of February. He had been forty years in the service, having been appointed from Kentucky, and born in Ohio.

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REFERRERS BY SPECIAL AGREEMENT.  
General Sherman, U. S. Army, and lady, Washington, D. C.; General David D. Porter, U. S. N., Washington, D. C.; General Geo. Sykes, U. S. Army; Brig.-Gen. I. N. Palmer, U. S. Army, Omaha, Neb.; Brigadier-General L. P. Graham, U. S. Army; Brigadier-General Wm. M. Graham, U. S. Army; Mrs. Admiral Dahlgren, Washington, D. C.; General A. D. Sturges, U. S. Army.

VANITY FAIR for Meerschaum and Cigarette. See Advertisement.

THE country may congratulate itself that it is to be represented at the Paris Panama International Inter-oceanic Canal Congress, by Admiral Ammen. To the conference thus to be assembled in the middle of May, at the suggestion of M. de Lesseps, Admiral Ammen will carry the fruits of thorough study. The project itself is one of unprecedented magnitude and commercial importance; as an engineering feat, the Darien ship canal will utterly eclipse the piercing of Suez and the tunnelling of Mont Cenis; the cost of the enterprise cannot well be, in round numbers, less than \$100,000,000. In every way it becomes of the highest importance that a scheme so vast should be started on the most practicable, the cheapest and the best route; and what we now desire to point out is that the leading explorers and the leading experts on this subject are officers and men of our own Navy. This is one more of those cases in which the arithmetic of Mr. Blaine is powerless to tell the real story of naval efficiency and naval economy. Blot out the immortal record of what the Navy has done and won in war, and even then its value as a peaceful pioneer and protector of commerce would be its sufficient vindication for existence and its argument for enlargement.

Prior to the adjournment of Congress, the Senate passed a resolution authorizing the publication of the Isthmus of Darien surveys, made by Lieut. Frederick Collins, U. S. N., in 1875. This action was strongly recommended by the American Geographical Society in a memorial to the House of Representatives, dated New York, Feb. 20, 1879, which recited its lively interest in the ship-canal project, and urged the early addition of the reports of Commander Lull and Lieut. Collins, with their maps and plans, to the printed literature of the several expeditions as a "matter of special importance." Work is progressing upon them, and it is hoped that they may be ready in time for presentation to the Canal Congress.

We would inform those entitled to the three months' pay granted for service in Mexico that upon application to the Second Auditor of the U. S. Treasury at Washington, blanks will be furnished to the officers and soldiers of the Army, to be filled up, and the Fourth Auditor of the U. S. Treasury will furnish the blanks upon similar request to the officers, petty officers, seamen of the Navy and Marines, and to the officers and seamen of the Revenue Marine Service. These blanks will contain full information as to the manner in which the claim can be collected, and no agent or attorney is required.

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THE NEW CONGRESS AND THE ARMY.

FOR the first time in twenty years, the Army is now to look for its laws and its support to a Democratic Congress. When so great a governmental change is ushered in as the one signalized by the approaching assembly of the 46th Congress, it is well to consider what it is likely to bring forth.

A relief from the deadlock of the past two years, in which the Senate and House has been so often at loggerheads, cannot be dreaded by the Army. It has been the shuttlecock driven between two battle-doors; its interests have been subordinated to political rivalries in Senate and House. Twice within two years its current appropriations have been crushed between the upper and nether millstones of the upper and lower chamber. The Army is not a political body; its officers and its men are of various political sentiments, but nobody thinks, and few people know, of what political school one or another famous soldier is. The case is something as with illustrious poets, engineers, or explorers—the public knows that very likely they have political belongings, but the partisan is so subordinate to the professional man that nobody considers the former in judging of their trustworthiness as poets, explorers, or engineers. The soldier is content to pursue his career whatever the party in power. The chief trouble of the Army arises when two parties hold a divided sway over the doings of Congress. It would probably be better off when managed by either; it certainly can feel like the character in the *Beggars' Opera*:

"How happy could I be with either,  
Were 't other dear charmer away."

Whether this anticipation will be realized under the 46th Congress, remains to be seen. It is possible that the change may be the proverbial one from frying-pan to fire; but the ground of hope that at least the routine wants of the Army will be supplied, is that majorities in both Houses of the same political faith can pass such appropriation bills as they like, without having them thwarted between the two Houses. The failure of the Army bill in the last Congress was due to a matter having no bearing on the question of the Army appropriations, namely, whether troops should be prohibited from preserving the peace at the polls. In the 46th Congress, both Houses will agree to that prohibition, and the more political work that is taken away from the Army the better it will be pleased.

There still remains one difficulty, hinted at by us last week, and specifically presented in this week's letter from our Washington correspondent. The prohibition of the use of troops at the polls may be vetoed by the President as a separate bill, if so passed. As it then cannot be carried over the veto by a two-thirds vote, it may be hitched to the Army appropriation bill and passed in that state, whereupon the President may veto the appropriation bill.

Should Congress insist on its position, the annual appropriations would fail.

We have no hesitation in saying that such a course would be unpardonable in the President; nor until it occurs shall we believe it possible. The President's veto power is not given him for the purpose of confusing legislation by a Congress of different political convictions from his own, merely because it cannot be carried over his head by a two-thirds vote. In a republican form of government, we hold it to be wrong to load current appropriation bills for non-political institutions with political measures; but the practice has been too common among both parties for either to suddenly set up the cry of reform, at the expense of those institutions. The law which now forbids the presence "of troops or armed men at the place where any general or special election is held in any State, unless it be necessary to repel the armed enemies of the United States, or to keep the peace at the polls," was made in 1865, when civil war was still going on. The purpose of that law was good; but it made one exception—the words we have italicized—which might not have been deemed necessary or wise even by the same Congress, if sitting in 1879 instead of 1865. At all events, no one can question that the Congress of 1879 has as much right to legislate for itself on the subject as the Congress of 1865. The condition of the country has changed in fourteen years, and many of the statutes of that earlier date have been repealed or amended. No one can doubt that the majority of Congress should maintain its opinions on such a subject as well as the minority aided by a peculiar discretionary power vested in the President.

We cannot believe that Mr. HAYES would inflict on the Army, which deserves so well of the country, the suffering caused by the detention of its supplies and its pay. It has earned and continues to earn its means of living. If the rival parties in Congress are intent on forcing a sensational issue for the next Presidential canvass, which is to determine their enjoyment of offices and patronage, let them make it in some other way. Great stress and injury were caused by the 44th Congress, two years ago, in failing to seasonably pass the Army appropriation bill. With that experience so fresh in memory, it would be shameful to repeat it; nor can we believe that President HAYES would make himself the means of doing this in order to insist on using troops at elections, against the wish of a majority of both Houses of Congress.

But there is still another possibility of trouble for the Army. It is that Congress may bring up the Legislative, Judicial and Executive bill first, fasten upon it the election supervising provision, which is much more hotly disputed than the use of troops, and, on the voting of that, adjourn without any action on the Army bill. In this case, the condemnation which should attend the President under the former supposition, would properly fall upon the majority of Congress. To withhold from the Army, which has taken no part in the dispute, its supplies and pay, merely because Congress could not secure its own on the terms desired, would be a despicable dog-in-the-manger policy, foolish even in a partisan view. Popular indignation would cry out against so wanton and mean sacrifice of the Army. Even more fatal would it be to separate and pass the legislative appropriations, in a distinct bill, leaving the political riders to be put upon the executive, judicial and Army bills. Such a device to obtain their own salaries in season, leaving others in the lurch, would overwhelm Congress with contempt.

THE FIRST ARTILLERY.

ONE more of those interesting and valuable military monographs, whose aim and uses we have so frequently commended in the JOURNAL, has just been issued. In a stout volume of 684 pages, Capt. and Bvt. Maj. Haskin, of the 1st Artillery, gives the history of that regiment from its formation, in 1821, to Jan. 1, 1876. Grouped around this central theme are some chapters on the organization of the Artillery prior to 1821, and personal reminiscences by officers and of their service in the regiment; but we must find special praise for the completeness and care with which the lists of actions, of changes of station, of the field and staff of the regiment, and such rosters of the regiment as could be got, have been compiled. This kind of work, often hard and dry, is of great value for reference.

At the foundation of the Government in 1789, a Regular Army already existed, composed of a frontier corps of infantry, 700 strong, and a battalion of four companies of artillery. Thus both these arms antedate the regular cavalry. This nucleus of force was gradually increased; and in 1793 came Washington's well known legion formation, 5,120 strong, in which four "sub-legions" were each composed of a troop of dragoons, a company of artillery, two battalions of infantry, and one of riflemen. In 1794 was formed a "corps of artillerists and engineers," sixteen companies, 903 strong; and in 1798 came an additional corps or regiment, as war with France was impending. In 1802, under a reduced organization, there was a separate engineer corps and one regiment of artillery—but the latter had a colonel, a lieutenant-colonel, 4 majors, and 20 companies, in five battalions. In 1808 war with Great Britain began to loom up, and a regiment of light artillery was, with other forces, added to the Army; and in 1812, when the war came, two more artillery regiments were added. However, in 1814, the arm consisted of one regiment of light artillery (ten companies) and of one "corps of artillery," consolidated from the three regiments, and having 6 lieutenant-colonels, 6 majors, 13 adjutants, 12 quartermasters, and 48 companies in 13 battalions. A year later these companies were reduced in number to 32. But it is worth noting that in a total of 123 companies and 9,980 men, 39 companies and 3,200 men were assigned for artillery, besides 10 companies and 660 men for light artillery; the remainder were infantry and riflemen. In 1831, the ordnance, artillery, and light artillery were consolidated into four regiments, making 36 companies, of 55 officers and men each—total, 1,980. There were at that time but 7 infantry regiments.

Here, then, we arrive at the date of formation of the First Artillery. It had 49 officers assigned to it. Its first colonel was Moses Porter, who, as a private in the Marblehead, Mass., artillery company, had fought at Bunker Hill, in 1775, and continued in the Army throughout the revolutionary war, his valor at Fort Mifflin winning him a commission. He was colonel of the Light Artillery in 1812. The lieutenant-colonel was Bomford, the inventor of the Columbiad. Major Walbach was a German officer of distinction, who had served also over twenty years in the Austrian army. Among the captains were A. McDowell, Crane, colonel in 1848, Alex. S. Brooks, Eastman, Dallibor, Churchill, W. J. North, Milo Mason, and the two Whitings. Among the first lieutenants was W. S. Harney, but he was only a short time with the regiment. The original nine companies of the regiment rank in length of service thus: I, H, G, E, A, and B, F, C, and D. The oldest, I, had been organized June 4, 1798; the youngest, D, dates at 1815. Companies A, B, D, E, F, G, and H, had taken an active part in the war of 1812, at York, Ft. George, Stony Creek, Oswego and Plattsburgh.

In 1822, Col. Porter died, and was succeeded by Col. House. Up to the Florida war, the chief incidents were garrison duty in New England, at Newbern, and elsewhere; a little riot duty in Maryland, and a little nullification duty in Charleston. The first art school was started, in 1824, at Fort Monroe, as all of its successors have been, and died in 1834. The bugle, as field music, in place of drum and fife, was first authorized in 1825. There was an increase of pay in 1837. In 1828, the enlistment of the foreign-born in the service was first permitted. Up to that time, none but Americans were put on guard or anywhere else in the Army. Between 1830 and 1832, the regular whiskey ration was displaced by coffee. In 1831, when Capt. Whiting's company had just been removed from Newbern to Virginia on duty, a slave riot was apprehended at the former point, and the ladies of Newbern begged for the protection of their artillery company. Old Hickory, then President, favorably responded at once, and in a letter to the ladies gallantly said that he had ordered another company of the same regiment immediately "for their protection and safety." I herewith inclose the reply of the Secretary of War. That will show with what promptness I have met the prayers and wishes of the fair petitioners. Modern statesmanship would have thereupon denounced Jackson as a milk-sop, and called for the reduction of the First Artillery to ten men.

The Black Hawk war took six companies of artillery to the West; but a worse foe than the red man met them *en route* in the shape of the cholera. Between Buffalo and Chicago they and the infantry, too, died in great numbers. Out of 231 men in the artillery battalion 55 died of cholera; and many others had been grievously sick. The First Artillery had sent but one company, G, and it lost but one man—the immunity being possibly due in part to a pledge among the

ment not to drink intoxicating liquor during the campaign. The artillery did not take part in the war.

Col. Abraham Eustis, of Massachusetts, succeeded, in 1834, to the command of the regiment, on the death of Col. House, from Asiatic cholera. Two years before, Lieut.-Col. Bomford had gone into the ordnance corps, and had been succeeded by Major Walbach, and he by Capt. Gates. The Florida war followed, and there for the first time the regiment had its first experience of actual warfare, and acquitted itself well. Companies A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H took part, and distinguished themselves in the battle of the Withlacoochee, at Volusia, at Okahumpki swamp, at Matanzas, at Walika Pond, at Fort Drane, in the battle of Wahoo swamp, and elsewhere. Co. I joined them before the close of the war.

In those days, the Army did not know as much about war as it does now, and the Florida campaign sickened it. During 1836, one-fifth of all the line officers resigned, and fifteen of the number were from the First Artillery—one-fourth of the officers of this regiment within a year. Florida was avoided like a pest-house, on account of its climate. Major Haskin, at the risk of discriminating, says that Eustis, W. Gates, Pierce, Kirby, Porter, Von Ness, Dimick, L. Gates, Tompkins, Nauman, Taylor, Irwin, Prentiss, Watson, Capron, Hale, Lee, Beets, Herbert, Hagner, Burke, Hatheway and Fowler did their whole duty, to the honor of the regiment. The losses were two officers, L. Gates and Mackay, and 43 men—of the latter only four were killed in action; disease finished the rest. During this campaign Capt. Pierce, brother of the subsequent President, became major. The regiment then moved away to the Cherokee nation.

In 1838, the First Artillery acquired a tenth company, by act of Congress; but the same act, largely increasing the various staff corps, and separating the ordnance from the artillery, took out Lieuts. Williamson, Maynadier, Lee, Walbach and Hagner for the ordnance service. The "fogy" or longevity ration also dates from that act. Col. Eustis died in 1843, and was succeeded by Col. Crane, who had meantime been Lieut.-col. of the Second Artillery, and was the highest in his grade.

The Mexican war carried Companies A, B, D and E to the scene of hostilities at the outset. B, D and E went to Palo Alto with Gen. Taylor, commanded respectively by Lieuts. Magruder, Knowlton, and Hatheway, the whole battalion under Justin Dimick, of Co. D, the only officer in the regiment present having a rank as high as captain. Companies C, F, G, H, I and K soon afterwards joined the troops in Mexico, and Monterey was fought. The First Artillery distinguished itself particularly at Cerro Gordo, being then under command of Major Childs. Its losses were 10 killed and 30 wounded, being one-third of the portion actually engaged. After that Capt. Dimick again had command of the regiment (he became its colonel in 1861), and Major Childs of the brigade. Again at Contreras, Churubusco, and Chapultepec, it splendidly distinguished itself; at Chapultepec, Lieut. Haskin, father of the author of the volume under review, was severely wounded. The regiment was the last to leave Vera Cruz, at the close of the war. Nearly 700 officers and men served with B, D, F, G, H, I and K, between March and December, 1847, and of these 4 officers and 28 men were killed, 8 officers and 100 men were wounded, and 91 men died of disease. The officers killed were Johnstone, Capron, Burke and Hoffman, all shot dead on the field, the three latter at Churubusco. Lieut. Jones was mortally wounded on the same field while aid to Gen. Cadwalader. The wounded were Capt. Dimick, Nauman, Magruder and Hatheway, and Lieuts. Mackall, Haskin, Brannan, Martin and Boynton. Three officers were killed and five were wounded while serving with the foot battalion, and one was killed and three were wounded while serving with the light batteries. Companies L and M joined the regiment at Vera Cruz.

Between the Mexican and the Civil war the companies of the regiment served in all parts of the country—in Oregon, in Florida, in Texas, at Fort Pickens, Fort Sumter, Key West. It fought both Indians and the marauding bands of Cortinas on the Rio Grande. In 1857, on the death of Col. Crane, Lieut.-Col. John Erving, of the 2d Artillery, became colonel of the 1st, and Capt. Robert Anderson, of the 3d, became major of the 1st.

Here, having come down to the great war which may be considered within familiar remembrance or general knowledge of all readers, we may drop the thread of narration; for the very honorable and valuable part taken by the 1st Artillery during the war, and its conduct since the war, are well known, and

many of its records have appeared from year to year in our own columns.

The volume of Capt. Haskin has been enriched, as we have said, by many pages of communications from officers giving most valuable and interesting reminiscences of service with the regiment. The contributors to this part of the work are Gens. Ramsay, Hagner, Doubleday, Fry, and Seymour; Col. Henry and Rando; Lieut.-Col. Closson, Langdon, and Gilman; Majors Wayne, Martin, Elderkin, Eakin, McCrea, and Haskin; Capt. Boynton, Coppee, and Ward; Lieutenants Bell and Deshler. To these personal reminiscences of the regiment has been prefixed a sketch of the history of the companies that formed it, by Professor A. B. Gardner. The book is, therefore, an example of the historical, biographical, professional, and patriotic interest that must always be created by a work of this kind, if performed with care, capacity, and zeal.

SEVERAL inquiries have been made as to the effect of the recent "arrears of pensions" act. The law as it stood previous to the passage of this act, directed that pensions should commence from the death or discharge of the person for whom pension was claimed, "provided the application for such pension has been, or is hereafter, filed with the Commissioner of Pensions within five years after the right thereto has accrued; otherwise the pension shall commence from the date of filing the last evidence necessary to establish the same."

This limitation clause disappears entirely in the new act, which now stands on the Statute books as follows:

All pensions which have been or may hereafter be granted in consequence of death occurring from a cause which originated in the Service, since the fourth day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, or in consequence of wounds or injuries received or disease contracted since that date, shall commence from the death or discharge of the person on whose account the claim has been, or is hereafter granted, or from the termination of the right of party having prior title to such pension.

That is to say, no matter when the application for pension is made, the pension itself will commence from the death or discharge, etc. Claims for pensions are to be made to the Commissioner of Pensions, Washington, D. C.

UNDER the heading of Answers to Correspondents we give what information we have concerning the recent decision of the Attorney General with reference to the commutation of quarters for officers' servants.

COMMERCE and navigation owe much to Capt. Trudelle, commanding the *France*, of the *Compagnie générale Transatlantique*, and formerly lieutenant in the French navy, for the published results of his studies on the approaches to Sandy Hook, in fog and snows, by means of soundings.

It is a peculiarity of the coasts of New Jersey and Long Island in the region of New York harbor that their chief foggy season is the winter—say from December to March, inclusive—whereas the American coast in general has its foggiest season in summer, say in August.

Capt. Trudelle begins his observations by noting the source of the prevailing current near New York harbor. Without pausing to inquire whether the current which ordinarily prevails between the Gulf stream and the American coast is a counter-current of the Gulf stream or the continuation of the Labrador current, he seizes the fact that it tends west and south, and that between the banks of Nantucket and the mouth of the Delaware it often has a speed of two miles an hour. Its temperature is much lower than that of the Gulf stream. Between Nantucket and New York it is almost always accelerated during and after winds from the sea. In the spring, at the season of the melting of northern ice and snow (April and May) a superficial current, emerging from the Bay of Fundy, and flowing southwest or south-southwest, after traversing St. George's banks, augments the one already spoken of. Capt. Trudelle, in fine, says that it appears to him incontestable that the wrecks of the transatlantic steamers which have so frequently taken place on the New Jersey coast between Squan beach and Sandy Hook, are due to the strong southwest current whose origin he has thus traced out, and also to the imperfections of the soundings along the usually followed route, which do not sufficiently warn the navigator of the effects of the current.

Running rapidly over such of these disasters as have occurred during the years from 1874 to 1877, he sets down the *Alexandre Lavallée*, a French steamer, lost on Long Island; the *Queen*, an English steamer, run a shore, in a fog, at Squan beach, but afterwards got off with little loss; the *Vicksburg*, an American steamer, lost on Long Island, mistaking the Fire Island light for that

at Barnegat; the *Circassian*, an English steamer, lost on Long Island; the *Amérique*, a French steamer, wrecked at Seabright, Jan. 7, 1877; the *Russland*, a Belgian steamer, wrecked, in a fog, a few days after the *Amérique*, and only a few miles further south. And to this table he adds three instances in which the *France*, in three successive years, found herself in a different position from the one in which the soundings placed her by her reckoning.

Capt. Trudelle then furnishes the results of his own soundings and observations, and puts them in the form of charts, while also using them to show the origin of the disasters to some of the vessels already spoken of.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### GIVE THE SPRINGFIELD A SHOW.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: It is becoming so common to abuse the Springfield rifle, that you will probably be surprised to receive a letter from a soldier who considers it a perfect military gun. What do these people expect of a rifle? It will carry up to six hundred yards with accuracy; it can be loaded almost too rapidly; it seldom gets out of order, and its breech mechanism is as simple and reliable as any of the other styles that have been exhibited on this side of the continent. Soldiers of the Regular Army are notoriously bad shots, and this growl about guns looks as if it were another instance of the unskillful workman finding fault with his tools. The California militia make no complaint about the same weapon; in fact, they couldn't, consistently; for there are dozens of them who, with a Springfield rifle, at five hundred yards, can score more than eighty per cent. every time they shoot at a target.

Taking into consideration the extreme cautiousness characteristic of an Indian when in action, the high winds which usually prevail on the plains, and the difficulty of judging long distances with certainty, there is little room for doubt that, shooting at "Mr. Lo" when he is more than six hundred yards away is a silly waste of ammunition, even if the officer had a company of Partellos, each armed with a Creedmoor rifle.

If the Army reorganizers would provide for the appointment of a rifle instructor at each post, it would be a step in the right direction. He could hold the rank of sergeant, and should be selected, with due regard for other qualifications, specially, on account of his ability as a marksman. A great many officers are such indifferent shots themselves, that it is impossible for them to instruct their men in this very important portion of a soldier's education. Increasing the allowance of ammunition has not enabled the Regulars to shoot as well as the militia, and it is reasonable to suppose that the superiority of the latter is owing to better coaching. The guns, both carbines and rifles, are good enough; the men are good enough, but there are points about shooting which the learner will be a long time discovering, unless he has the assistance of a teacher who is himself a good shot.

### 4TH ARTILLERY.

### GEORGE LITTLE'S COURT-MARTIAL IN 1801.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: In my communication to your JOURNAL of the 4th of Jan., I mention as one of the earliest Naval Courts-martial of which I had knowledge, one held on board the frigate *Constitution*, in Boston Harbor, in 1801. In overhauling some papers to-day I chanced upon the sentence of that court, and the Secretary of the Navy's letter commenting upon it, and forward them, thinking you may like to spread them upon the pages of your JOURNAL for permanent historical record. I do not recall another instance in our Navy where a charge of pillaging the private property of prisoners has ever been a subject of Court-martial. During our late Civil War it was a constant charge against Adm. Semmes, of the *Alabama*, that he plundered the captains and officers of the vessels he captured of their private property, and it is a matter of notoriety that he took in every instance the chronometers on board his captures, which were always the property of the captain of the vessel captured or destroyed. Capt. Little was unanimously and honorably acquitted of the charge of taking watches, etc.; but it was clearly adduced in evidence such things were taken, and Lieut. Stephen Clough, of the *Boston*, was subsequently tried, and I presume, convicted and dismissed, as his trial was commenced on the 7th of Sept., 1801, and he was discharged from the service on the 29th of September following. I have, however, never seen the record of his trial or the sentence pronounced in his case.

The French corvette *Le Berceau*, Capt. Senes, was captured by the frigate *Boston*, Capt. Geo. Little, on the 12th of Oct., 1800, and Capt. Little arrived with his prize at Boston, Mass., on the 14th of Nov. *Le Berceau* was considered one of the fastest sailing corvettes in the French navy. The Survey officers and crew were after 15 days' detention in Boston permitted to go to Barbadoes on parole. The charges against Capt. Little and Lt. Clough grew out of the capture of this vessel, the prisoners complaining that they had been pillaged of their private property.

P.

BROOKLINE, MASS., Feb. 19, 1879.

(From the Columbian Sentinel, Oct. 28, 1801.)

Sentence of the Court-martial pronounced in the trial of Captain George Little.

The court having heard all the evidence and prisoner's defence, and maturely and seriously considered the whole, are unanimously of opinion that the charges are malicious and ill-founded.

The court do, therefore, unanimously and honorably acquit the said Captain George Little of the several articles contained in the charge against him, and he is hereby fully and honorably acquitted accordingly.

Dated on board the *Constitution*, Sept. 7, 1801.

S. Nicholson, president; Silas Talbot, Stephen Decatur, Alexander Murray, Edward Preble, John Mulloway, Thomas Robinson, Hugh G. Campbell (Captain); Master Commandant, Cyrus Talbot, George Blake acting as Judge-Advocate on the occasion.

"NAVY DEPARTMENT, Sept. 25, 1801.

"The act of Congress for the better government of the Navy of the United States, declares that no person of the Navy shall pillage

prisoners on board a prize, on pain of such punishment as a Court-martial shall adjudge. In the foregoing case, among several unimportant informal allegations, there is a charge of pillage exhibited against Capt. Little, and it was for the trial of this charge principally that the Court-martial was constituted. Not only the honor of the nation, but the honor of this officer, was deeply implicated, and, therefore, called for such a solemn investigation. In this trial it was the Government that was the party prosecuting. The prisoners were only as the informing witnesses in a criminal prosecution. These prisoners in legal contemplation are not, neither were they, in the contemplation of Government, considered parties. They could not have been in any degree benefited by a sentence against Capt. Little, because a Court-martial is not competent to decree a restoration of any property alleged to have been pillaged. It is only competent in such a trial to pass a sentence of acquittal or punishment. The evidence adduced in this trial clearly proves, that the prisoners on board the prize have been pillaged. It is apparent that watches, rings, and buckles, constituting a part of the dress of the prisoners have been pillaged from them by some person belonging to the Boston frigate; that these articles, at the time of taking them, were not deemed even by the persons who took them, lawful prizes, that they were not reported to the officers of the Admiralty Court as prizes to be adjudicated and condemned; that they have not, at any time since, been produced, and that no satisfactory information has yet been given respecting them. But from the face of the proceedings of the Court-martial it does appear that the orders issued by Capt. Little were perfectly correct and legal; that he was not, in any degree, a party in this mean and disgraceful pillage, and that the charge against him has no evidence, positive or presumptive to support it. I therefore do approve of the sentence of acquittal pronounced by the Court-martial on his trial.

"R. SMITH, Secretary of the Navy.

"The foregoing are true copies from the originals on file in the Navy Department.

CH. W. GOLDSBOROUGH."

### THE THUNDERER ACCIDENT.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: I see in your number 810, of the 1st inst., an article relating to the bursting of the *Thunderer*'s great gun. Although I do not profess to be an expert in the manufacture or the handling of guns, it is quite apparent to me that the gun gave way at its weakest point.

Some of the papers I have read attribute the bursting to the slipping forward of the shot in loading; but your correspondent "A." says this idea is erroneous; he says, "on the contrary, the strain is lessened by separating the projectile from the charge." This is in accordance with the experiments made by Mons. Delvigne of Paris, who had, during a long life, much experience in ordnance; it is also a fact, as stated in the article signed "A." that conclusive experiments were made by a board at Cold Spring in 1865, when guns were tried where a space from 5 inches to 75 inches was left between the powder and the shot.

The Perriers, or swivels, or field guns borrowed from the French Ordnance Department by the *Société de Sauvage des Naufrages*, are invariably used with a vacant space between the charge and the base of the bore, or chamber, if there is one; and in regard to the experiments made in order to prove the entire safety of doing so, Delvigne says that the French government loaded six 30-pound brass marine guns of the same size and make; two of them were charged as usual with about 15 lbs. of powder, and a heavy elongated projectile weighing about 90 lbs.; at the 11th fire one of the guns burst—the other burst at the 12th fire.

One charged by my plan with the vacant space and with the same charge and the same shot stood 178 fires, one stood 167—these had a vacancy of 16 centimeters; two others with 20 stood 162 and 108 discharges—the aggregate being 27 to 1 in favor of the vacant space. I am, yours faithfully,

R. B. FORBES.

MILTON, March 5, 1879.

### WHISTLES FOR SOUNDING SIGNALS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: In your number of March 1st appears a communication from "de Navarre," in regard to the use of whistles for sounding signals for troops, especially when deployed as skirmishers.

In my own company I have used successfully a large dog whistle to sound signals for skirmishes, and I send the signals. No. 1. Calls attention at all times, and when troops are firing, "cease firing" also. It is a signal that can be used by battalion commanders at all times to gain the attention of all before giving an oral command.

No. 9 does not only sound the call for deploying after the rally, but can be used also to signal a command to deploy as skirmishers.

The long dash denotes a long whistle, the dot a short, sharp whistle:

- No. 1. — Attention and cease firing.
- No. 2. — Forward.
- No. 3. — To the rear.
- No. 4. — By the right flank.
- No. 5. — By the left flank.
- No. 6. — Halt.
- No. 7. — Rally by company.
- No. 8. — Rally by fours.
- No. 9. — Deploy.
- No. 10. — Assemble on centre skirmishers.
- No. 11. — Commence firing.

These are the signals that will be mostly used; after sounding attention any further command can be given when necessary orally. Yours respectfully,

JAS. RUSH LINCOLN,  
Captain 3d Regiment, Iowa National Guard.  
BOONEBORO, IOWA, March 5, 1879.

### WAR AND PEACE.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: Would not the friends of the Army be justified in having printed for distribution among the members of Congress the following lines from one of the broadsides in the New York Historical Society's library?

"God and a Soldier all Men doth adore,  
In Times of War, and not before;  
When the War is over, and all Things righted,  
God is forgotten, and the Soldier slighted."

Yours truly, JOHN P. NICHOLSON.  
PHILADELPHIA, March 6, 1879.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

### AFFAIRS AT WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, March 12, 1879.

THERE is, of course, comparative quiet in Army circles while we are awaiting the reassembling of Congress; but many speculations are rife as to what will be the action upon the Army Appropriation bill. The opinion appears to be gaining ground that something looking towards the reorganization of the Army will be included in whatever bill may pass. The amendment to the bill as passed by the House, which prohibited the use of troops at elections may be introduced as a separate bill, to be presented before the Appropriation bill comes up. Should such a bill be offered there is every reason to believe that it would pass, and should it be approved by the President there will be no difficulty about the Appropriation bill. Should the President, however, veto any bill which should prohibit the use of troops at elections, it is doubtful whether any appropriation will be made for the Army.

The indications are that some considerable time will be occupied in organizing the House, and the best informed persons now think that the House Appropriation bill will be again passed precisely as it passed before, and that the Senate will agree. Then comes the question of the President's approval, and no man can now tell how he will decide.

As the majority in the Senate was so strongly against the Army bill as it came from the House, it is considered by some as an indication that they were opposed to any reduction of the Army or to interfering with it in any way. It is doubtful whether that reasoning is correct. Many Senators voted against the bill for the reason, as we have before stated, that they had not the leisure to examine into the matter, and we have heard that some Senators voted against the bill for the reason that they did not consider it sufficiently radical in the way of reduction. And Gen. Burnside has repeatedly given it as his opinion that any bill that would now be passed would be far less liberal than the one submitted by the joint commission. But these are only given as indications.

Some little stir is being made in Army circles just now by the shape which the Stanley-Hazen difficulty has assumed. It would have been better, we think, for the good of the Service and for all concerned, if the affair could have been arranged between the parties without any judicial action, but it appears that it could not be. This matter has been the subject of much talk and a great deal of comment here for nearly two years, but for the benefit of those who have never been able to get a correct version of the affair we will here state it, and at the same time we would wish to be understood as having no prejudices for or against either party.

Some years since both Gen. Stanley and Gen. Hazen wrote letters concerning the country through which the Northern Pacific Railroad was to pass. General Stanley described it as fertile and susceptible of being made a fine agricultural country. Gen. Hazen, on the contrary, described it as a worthless desert. A very bitter feeling was engendered on the part of General Stanley, and he finally preferred charges against Gen. Hazen for making false statements before the Balknap impeachment court, and for several other offences. These charges were examined at the War Department, but it was not considered a *prima facie* case, and it was decided by the Secretary of War that "the good of the Service would not be conserved" by a trial of General Hazen on these charges. Then Gen. Stanley wrote a letter to Gen. Hazen, informing him that he (General Hazen) well knew that a trial upon these charges could only have resulted in his conviction, and that he already stood convicted in the estimation of the public. Gen. Stanley also informed Gen. Hazen in his letter that he was aware of the conduct of Gen. Hazen at Shiloh, and that he intends to put an end to his (Gen. Hazen's) career of fraud. This letter was sent to Gen. Hazen at Vienna, while he was on duty abroad as an observer of the Turco-Russian war.

Now, Gen. Sherman suggested that the difficulty between the two gentlemen be settled by a court of honor, each of them selecting an officer, and the two thus chosen to select a third, the three thus forming a court, which should pass upon the case. This was rejected by Gen. Hazen, who says that if he is to be vindicated he wishes it to be by a judicial proceeding, and he has preferred charges against Gen. Stanley for his conduct. There are fifteen specifications to the charge, nearly all of which charge Gen. Stanley with wilfully and maliciously attempting to destroy the character and reputation of Gen. Hazen, and making the different paragraphs of Gen. Stanley's letter, and the charges and specifications preferred against Gen. Hazen by Gen. Stanley, the burthen of the specifications.

The Secretary of War now has the matter under advisement, and in view of all that has been said and done we believe that a court will be ordered. In view of the fact also that Gen. Hazen has employed Mr. Richard T. Merrick, who is one of the ablest lawyers in the country, to act as counsel, we think that business is meant; for a one thousand dollar retainer and one hundred dollars a day is about as small a sum as the jovial Richard will look at ordinarily.

The following changes will be made in the stations of troops at an early day. The 10th Infantry, Colonel Clitz, will be brought from Texas to the stations on the Lakes. The 23d Infantry, Col. Stanley, now on the Lakes, will take the place of the 10th in Texas. As soon as the season will admit of it the 18th Inf., Col. Ruger, will be moved from the Department of Dakota to the Montana posts, Department of Dakota. All the companies of the 7th Infantry, Col. Gibbon, will be brought to the posts in Minnesota.

The court, or board, or whatever it may be called, that has been reviewing the testimony in the case of ex-Surg-Gen. Hammond has finished the duty pre-

scribed for it, and it met for the last time on Monday last and adjourned without day.

The report of the Equipment Board cannot be expected for some weeks after their adjournment, which Gen. Sherman has ordered must not be later than the 1st proximo. The report will be looked for with a good deal of interest.

The promotions, but no appointments, in the Army will be sent to the Senate on Tuesday next.

There will be no retirements on account of age, but those who have applied, and those who have been recommended by boards, and those who shall apply for retirement under the existing laws will be retired and the vacancies filled by promotion, if it is determined that can be done, of which General Sherman is still in doubt.

EBBTT.

## THE CHEYENNE MASSACRE.

The Board of Officers convened by Brig.-Gen. Crook at Fort Robinson, Nebraska, "to examine into and report the facts attending the arrest, confinement, disarmament, escape, and recapture of a number of Cheyenne Indians," has made its report, which is exhaustive and circumstantial. The board in its investigation addressed itself more particularly to the examination of the Indian prisoners, and in its summing up gave a concise history of the affair, commencing with the story of the outbreak in the spring of 1877, and terminating with the massacre in January, 1879. The summary shows that in the spring of 1877 about 1,000 Cheyennes surrendered at Camp Robinson. Soon they were sent from there under an escort of cavalry to Fort Bent, I. T., where they remained until September, 1878, when becoming desperate by hunger and disease they started for Red Cloud agency. They were quickly overtaken by the troops, when Wild Hog, representing his people, declared they would not return but would go on westward. The Indians say the troops now brought on an engagement, but were not successful, and they marched steadily onward, heading for Camp Robinson, having several skirmishes on the way with troops sent to head them off. The warriors, under Little Wolf, scoured the country in the banks of the column, committing the most horrible atrocities, but on reaching the Union Pacific Railroad they became apprehensive of being cut off by the troops, so split up into several parties, the majority of the young men following Little Wolf, who has not since been heard of. About half of them united under Wild Hog and Dull Knife, and on the 23d of October, 1878, met a detachment of the 3d Cavalry, under Captain Johnson, and surrendered. He conducted them to the main camp of the troops on Chadron Creek, near the road from Camp Robinson to Camp Sheridan. On the morning of the 24th of October Captain Johnson, having posted troops to command the Indian camp, rode into it and demanded of the chiefs the horses and arms of their people. This demand was complied with only after long delays and much trouble, and only then on account of the strong determination shown by Captain Johnson. It was deemed unadvisable in the condition of mind the Indians then were to make a thorough search of the camp for arms, but Capt. Johnson had to content himself with such as the Indians reluctantly deposited at his feet. All the ponies, however, were procured and sent under escort to Camp Robinson, distant about twenty-five miles. That the disarmament had only been partial was apparent to all the officers concerned, but in their opinion any further exactation in that regard would have resulted in open hostilities which it was most desirable to prevent. Col. Carlton arrived at the camp that evening, but thought it best to defer action until the morning of the 25th of October, when he summoned the chiefs of the Indians and ordered them to move with their people to Camp Robinson. They objected, so Col. Carlton surrounded their camp with troops and arranged his forces so as to completely dominate them. In the morning he gave them his ultimatum that they must go to Camp Robinson, and they finally consented to go. On arrival at Camp Robinson the Indians—men, women and children—were placed in a large barrack building, and sentries placed over them. The chiefs were again called upon to deliver up any arms that had been retained, and a few were handed in. It was not practicable with the accommodation on hand to separate the men from the women and children, but soon the Indians, being well fed and provided for, seemed contented, except for the dread of being returned to the Indian Territory. They repeatedly said they would prefer death to going back. On the 3d of January, 1879, having been in confinement seventy days and made no attempt to escape, Capt. Wessells, 3d Cavalry, notified them that he had received orders to move them to the railway en route to the Indian Territory. They took one day to consider, and then announced their determination to die rather than return. Capt. Wessells saw they were sincere and thought that the adoption of harsh measures might compel them to yield, the starving process was adopted. The sentinels were removed from the prison room, as it was no longer safe for them to be there. When four days without food, except a small quantity they had saved for an emergency, and for two days without water, they still held out. Wild Hog's influence was supposed to be the cause, so he was brought out and put in irons. Old Crow came out with Hog, as the latter insisted; Crow was ironed without trouble, but Hog made a desperate resistance and before being overpowered succeeded in drawing a knife and stabbing a soldier. He had two more knives concealed on his person. This incident alarmed the Indians and they commenced secret preparations for an outbreak.

An account of this outbreak and the pursuit of the Indians which follows, is substantially a repetition of what has already appeared in the JOURNAL. Six of the guard, including the corporal, were shot by the Indians in breaking away.

At the first alarm the men of the company in the barracks, about fifty yards northeast of the prison, who had been cautioned by their captain to be prepared for an emergency, turned out half dressed, and, even in the confusion of a night fight, rallied against the rear guard of the Indians, and, after the men of that guard were all killed, continued the pursuit of the Indians for some distance until relieved by other troops, a mounted company under the command of Capt. Vroom, of the 3d Cavalry, having arrived on the field. Two companies from Fort Laramie subsequently joined Capt. Wessells, and subsequently two from Fort Robinson. On the 18th the command was joined by Major A. W. Evans, 3d Cavalry, who had arrived with orders to take command.

On the morning of the 10th, when the bodies of the dead Indians were being collected for burial, it was found that more than a dozen of them had been scalped, and also that many of the dead squaws' persons had been indecently exposed. There is no evidence that soldiers took part in this. There is evidence that civilians were seen examining the dead, and taking therefrom blankets that had been placed over them by the officers and soldiers, and the inference is that these men had not only robbed, but had committed these barbarities upon the dead, and the evi-

dence shows that one at least had boasted of having arrived in time to kill a squaw.

On the 21st, Captain Wessells found the trail of the Indians, and on the 23d came upon them at a tributary of Hot Creek. After firing a volley into the reconnoitering party, with fatal effect, the Indians ensconced themselves in a hole in the crest of the bluff bank of the creek. The troops were placed in a position to encircle this riflepit, charged, and finally, after the Indians had been called upon twice to surrender and refused, placed them *hors de combat*. Of the thirty-two Indians in the pit, seventeen men, four women and two children were killed; one man, one woman and one child mortally wounded who died the next day. That the women and children should be killed, however much to be regretted, was simply unavoidable in the assault. Although Captain Wessells' command consisted of four companies, he had but one hundred men engaged, as the companies were, from various causes, greatly reduced. The scene of the last fight was some thirty-five or forty miles from Fort Robinson.

The casualties were—

Soldiers killed and since died of their wounds.....	11
Officers wounded (Captain H. W. Wessells, Third Cavalry).....	1
Enlisted men wounded.....	9
Total .....	21
Indians killed.....	64
Indians captured and in confinement.....	78
Indians still unaccounted for.....	7
Total .....	149

The majority of the missing are women and children, and are supposed to have died in the bluffs. Of the prisoners there have been sent to the Red Cloud Agency fifty-eight.

To Sidney, en route to the Indian Territory, twenty. The report concludes with the following review of the case:

It is difficult to arrive at a correct estimate of all the motives which influenced the Cheyennes in their desperate cause without going beyond the strict limits of this investigation or considering facts not developed by it. The village of these Indians, numbering over a thousand souls, was destroyed by General McKenzie in the Big Horn range in the fall of 1876. Left at an inclement season without a tepee, they applied to their allies, the Sioux, for shelter, and were refused, or at least received very coldly. Having no other course, they surrendered at Camp Robinson, and were persuaded to go to the Indian Territory, largely influenced thereto by Chief Standing Elk, supposed to be a Southern Cheyenne. It is not known to the Board what assurances were given to them by the government, or what promises, if any, were broken. They were probably received very coldly by the Southern Indians, and they are very unanimous in their complaints of their treatment by the Southern Indians. It is easy to imagine that they were quite justified in their flight—at least in their own minds. After their surrender and incarceration at Fort Robinson in October last, it is understood that certain State authorities intended to make a demand upon the general government for the surrender to their tribunals of the perpetrators of certain outrages charged upon these Indians. That demand would be eminently proper and right, but it could only refer to the guilty individuals upon due identification. The punishment for these acts of an entire band, tribe or nation, as a body, was the province of the government, and not properly to be delegated to any inferior authority. It is quite probable that identification of the guilty might have been impossible, but might it not as well have been attempted at Fort Robinson as elsewhere? Could not the State officers have gone to that place for the purpose? Apart from these outrages, did the dignity of the government require the forcible removal of these people back to the Indian Territory? At any rate, prior to a full investigation into the merits of their complaints, it is neither the province nor the intention of the Board to criticize its superiors. But it is convinced that the return of these Indians to the South could only have been accomplished by bloodshed, and it desires to point out the only course which it seems to think could have avoided that issue.

In view of the orders received, the only question left with the military authorities at Fort Robinson was what steps to be taken by them would involve the least shedding of blood. The recourse to measures of starvation bears too strong an analogy to the ancient but now exploded practice of torture applied to the prisoner to compel confession not to startle the supporters of modern leniency. But what military course could have been devised? It was evident to the Indians that they had no alternative but to consent to return; that a violent outbreak of some sort must occur should have been apparent to every one who considered the temper of the Indians. Had it been practicable to secure barricades to prevent their actual exit from prison, it is altogether probable that they would have immolated themselves rather than surrender. That they would attempt to escape on the night of January 9 seems to have been clearly indicated that day, and was even predicted. In view of these circumstances it would seem that sufficient precautions were not taken. It was manifestly an error of judgment to relinquish the guard, or at least the watch over the Indians when discovered in their encampments; but it is so much easier to point out after the event what might or should have been done before it that the Board finds it difficult to condemn an officer who was otherwise zealous in the discharge of his duty, who seems to have acted upon the best of his judgment, and who afterward crowned his work by deeds of gallantry.

It must be borne in mind that he supposed the prisoners to be without firearms, and that such was not the fact is a state of things which the Board finds itself unable to clear up. The responsibility for the continued possession of firearms by the prisoners seems, of course, to rest upon the officer who was in command when they were captured. To disarm them was the first and most natural idea. Yet the Board is satisfied that its accomplishment was impracticable on Chadron Creek. After their imprisonment at Fort Robinson, while they were apparently contented and satisfied, and before the determination of the government was announced to them, it is possible that disarmament might have been effectually and thoroughly done. The officer who undertook it certainly supposed that he was being successful in his attempt. The Board is of opinion that the arms and ammunition used by the Cheyennes in their outbreak (except those captured by them from the troops) were previously in their possession, and had been introduced into and concealed by them in the prison. It is possible that a very few might have been conveyed to them by visitors, but not all nor nearly all. With regard to his arms, the Indian is so adroit and cunning that it is not surprising that he should have eluded the vigilance of his jailors. The arms were most probably taken apart and concealed upon the persons of the squaws until a favorable opportunity of hiding them under the floor of the room presented itself.

Colonel Carlton, in his evidence, has given his reason why he deemed it impracticable or unwise to convey the

men separately from the women and children. It has occurred to the Board that the latter class might have been simply placed in camp near by without creating their distrust or without precipitating an attempt to escape. This suggestion is founded upon similar cases that have occurred in Arizona and Texas, and at first view commands itself to the judgment. But this marked difference seems to exist, that in those cases the Indians seem to have been thoroughly whipped, while here this was not only not so, but the ultimate escape of the Buckos would have been greatly facilitated by the absence of the incumbrances of flight, and it is doubtful if this separation could have been made without exciting the suspicions of the Indians and quickening the final result.

While the Board has felt its duty to be to call the attention to what it deems errors of judgment committed by Captain Wessells, it cannot overlook the fact that the officer was so fortunate as to succeed to the policy inaugurated by his predecessor and superior in command, Major Carlton, and almost necessarily committed in advance to the pursuance of his system. Captain Wessells found these Indians imprisoned in a certain fashion, and seems, if anything, to have added precautions to their security. It was natural and reasonable that he should suppose that they had been really disarmed. The Board has pointed out certain errors it believes to have been committed, but beyond that attaches no blame to any one in the military service. And in view of all the circumstances of this unfortunate business, of the manifest act that collision with those Indians and consequent loss of life was unavoidable, of the evident desire of every one concerned to carry out the orders of the government in the most effective and yet most humane manner, and of the probability that no one else of equal experience or judgment could have done any better, respectfully recommends that no further action be taken.

The foregoing document, which is signed by the three officers of the Board, is endorsed by General Crook as follows:

I have nothing to add to the findings of the within Board, which are very complete, and which are approved.

## RELIGION IN THE ARMY.—Gen. Sherman wrote, March 6, 1879, to Rev. H. W. Beecher as follows:

I find among the accumulated letters of my absence, your favor of Jan. 24, endorsed by my aide as answered, but I suppose you prefer an answer from the "party of the first part."

I answer emphatically that if the Army had the legal custody of the Indians, as long as I occupy the post of Commander-in-Chief, every religious denomination professing "Peace on earth and good will," should have a fair chance to establish schools, churches and charitable societies among each and all the tribes.

Opposition, diversity and rivalry among churches, as among merchants' stimulate activity. Now each tribe or sub-division of a tribe is let out to some special denomination, which has a monopoly of the business. The result is Protestant Indians are in the spiritual custody of Catholic priests, and vice versa. Catholic Indians, such as the Flatheads, Crows, Arikarees, Spokans, etc., who believe in Father De Smet, are turned over body and soul to the Methodists or Episcopalians exclusively. In business sense this is not fair or honest. But our Christian friends raise the cry that soldiers are men without religion, and therefore incompetent to judge of such matters. This may be so, but we soldiers point back to a hundred years of history, and ask a comparison of results with the self-professed Christians.

Personally and officially I will encourage anything that will convert the wild Indians from the bold warrior (whom we cannot help admire) to the obedient citizen with some Christian virtues superadded—be those Methodist, Episcopalian, Quaker, or Catholic.

If I can add more I will gladly do so, at some moment of time when I have more leisure. As ever your friend,

W. T. SHERMAN.

FITZ JOHN PORTER BOARD.—The Fitz John Porter board met at the Army Building, New York, on Wednesday, March 13, and closed the case previous to going into secret session to determine on their report. Two newly discovered despatches were offered in evidence by Porter's counsel as follows: "I have just seen your last order telling Porter to take King. Of course, this is but temporary, and I have ordered Porter to place King on his right that I may have him when you say so."

"Till late this morning I was told by Reynolds that King's division was ordered to Manassas and Ricketts to Greenwich and Sigel to Gainesville. Supposing these orders were from you, I left Reynolds on the left of Suel and came here to see you and get my divisions. I find here that King came here on his own order, finding himself overmatched and Ricketts the same. King's division is getting supplies of food and ammunition, and will be ready to move soon. I have not heard from Ricketts this morning, but understand he is coming here. It was Gibbon's brigade that was engaged yesterday. Very respectfully,

IRVIN McDOWELL, M. G.

"A letter from Capt. Platt, one of Gen. Pope's A. D. C.'s, explained how they were discovered. Recorder Gardner said he did not regard the despatches as of any importance, but thought they should be presented regularly by calling Platt, who was in the city. Mr. Maltby: They are sufficiently important to contradict Gen. McDowell's testimony in sundry particulars. Major Gardner: Will the counsel be pleased to state in what particulars? McDowell has always openly stated that he wanted King's division that morning, and sent to Gen. Pope a message to that effect. After some consultation, the Recorder waived the objection on the ground of informality, and the complete despatch was admitted, the fragment being excluded. Some newly discovered Confederate reports were put in evidence by Major Gardner, with the explanation that, although not important in themselves, they were part of the history of the campaign, and should properly appear upon the record. Gen. Schofield then thanked the counsel for the petitioner and the Recorder for the able and impartial manner in which they had contributed to make up a clear record of the facts bearing upon the case, and the open sessions of the board ended.

CAPTAIN R. S. COLLUM, U. S. M. C., lectured in Memoria Church, Indianapolis, on the last Monday in February, to a fine audience. The Journal of that city says: "Captain Collum has been a close observer of men and events, and his lecture was replete with information in regard to the customs and manners of the Chinese."

LIEUT-COMMANDER GORRINGE, commanding the *Gettysburg*, and two of his officers were recently invited by Sir Garnet Wolseley to visit the English camp at Nicosia or Lefkasia, the capital city of Cyprus. From the port of Larnaca the journey to Nicosia, twenty-three miles, was made with relays of horses provided by Sir Garnet, and the party was most hospitably entertained at the camp, where they remained over night, dining with Sir Garnet and his staff on the evening of their arrival.

BREVET COLONEL JOSEPH B. COLLINS, formerly Major of the 2d Infantry, has been restored to the service under the provisions of a special act of Congress. He was appointed 2d Lieut. 4th Infantry March 29, 1849, and received his appointment as Major of the 2d Infantry Jan. 30, 1863, being mustered out Jan. 1, 1871, under the provisions of the reorganization act of 1870. He served during the Mexican war and during the Civil War, in which he was wounded at the second Bull Run fight.

## THE NATIONAL GUARD.

## THE CENTRAL PARK PARADE GROUND.

Since the introduction of the bill, proposing the use of part of the Central Park for a parade ground of the 1st New York Division, into the State Legislature by Assemblyman Langbein, the press and public have argued the right and wrong of the subject, both parties, however, being somewhat ignorant of the facts and totally oblivious as to the rights and wants of the men composing the 1st Division of the National Guard State of New York.

The Park as originally planned and laid out under the requirements of the legislative act provided for a parade ground on the very place now sought to be used as such, and designated as "ball" or "play" ground.

The militia at the particular request of the Commissioners refrained from making application for its use during the first four or five years on the representation that the sod was not sufficiently established. A decided movement having been made toward the use of the Park in 1862 or 1863 the Commissioners had the ground ploughed up and resodded, thus gaining two more years' time for their plea that the sod was not sufficiently established. They then applied to the Legislature and had an act passed forbidding troops to enter the Park.

During all this time Washington Square and Tompkins Square were available as drill grounds, so no great harm was done. But after a while Washington Square became a park, and drilling was both forbidden and made impracticable therein, and now Tompkins Square is developing into another park and its use by troops is forbidden; so that at the present date there is no drill ground in the city, or even available near the city, save at the expense of an entire day on each occasion, and a large bill for transportation.

Carrying out their original plan, the Park Commissioners are actively engaged in efforts to defeat the bill introduced by Capt. Langbein, all sorts of excuses and stories being circulated, of destruction and desecration of the Park grounds, the defrauding of the public by the use of its great breathing spot by men in uniform, etc., and finishing by stating that the soldiers themselves do not require the grounds for drill purposes. The necessity for such a parade ground to the proper instruction of the National Guard is too well understood to require discussion here, and it is quite evident to all who understand the subject that there is no reason in the fears of the Park Commissioners that the troops will injure New York's favorite Park. That, the National Guard are as far from desiring or intending as any one. It is only proposed to use the Park during May and June when the grass is growing, and not to an extent that will injure it. The infantry plain at West Point in daily use from May to November is always fresh and beautiful despite the tramping of troops over every part of it. The approach to the ground would be by the 7th avenue entrance passing by a tunnel now existing under the drives, so that no obstruction to travel could result.

**MILITARY POSITION IN RIFLE PRACTICE.**—An interesting discussion took place at the last meeting of the directors of the National Rifle Association as to whether the present rules of the Association requiring the "prone position" to be used in military matches at distances over 300 yards, shall be suspended at the spring meeting, and competitors be permitted to take "any position" (or, in other words, shoot on their backs), in certain matches on that occasion. A proposition for the amendment of the general rules on this subject is now pending before the Executive Committee of the National Rifle Association. It is officially stated that before making their decision the committee are desirous of ascertaining the views of the military riflemen of the country in order to act intelligently. For the purpose of ascertaining these views we would be glad to publish communications upon the subject from the Army and National Guard.

**TWELFTH NEW YORK.**—The proposed exhibition drill in the school of the battalion, to be given by this regiment at Gilmore's Garden, next Thursday evening, March 23, has put both officers and men on their mettle, as evinced by the wing drills held at the armory on March 10 and 11. It was announced that the regiment would drill at the State Arsenal on the 10th, but as the building was declared unsafe, the battalion was divided and instructed as above. On the 10th, Companies A, B, E, and K, under Col. Cruger, were equalized twelve front on account of the limited space, the detailed men being drilled in the manual in the lower hall. The formation was delayed fully fifteen minutes, awaiting the arrival of men who had reported at the arsenal, but from the moment of turning over, until the close, the execution of the movements were prompt, and almost perfect, and although a few slight errors were committed, they were overweighted by the general excellence. The march in column of fours could hardly be excelled, and although the echo in the room gave the appearance of a broken step, a look at the column satisfied the spectator. The changes of direction were correct, the men edging to the marching flank being omitted. An advance in line, with the formation of double column on the march, was fine, officers prompt and men moving like machines. The ploughs, columns of companies right and left in front, with deployments on right, left and centre companies, were without flaw, while the to and fro on the right and left, close column of divisions and companies, were only marred by an error in mistaking commands, the left company starting to execute a to, instead of on, the left company, instead of division. Toe on right and left line were all good, the distinct halt and carry being particularly noticeable. In the double column of fours, the size of the room caused some confusion at the start, it being the closest kind of work to change direction; the deployment by two movements was most satisfactory. The fronts into line by company were the poorest movements of the drill, and yet they were not bad, while the march, company and division, notwithstanding the repeated abouts, were excellent. Close in mass and take wheeling distance were then executed, after which the column of fours were formed into line by two movements, cleanly and promptly executed. The formation of line faced to the rear was equally good, the fronts into line and distances being excellent. The drill was closed with a very fair execution of the manual and an impromptu dress parade, principally for the instruction of the first sergeants.

**Lieut.-Col. Wilson** was in command of the left wing on the 11th, companies F, G, H and I being formed sixteen full lines. The column of fours marching, and changes of direction, were fully up to those of the right wing, while the manual at the halt and on the march was smooth and in proper cadence. After half an hour's drill in steady marching and changes of direction, Col. Wilson was compelled to reduce the front to twelve files in order to execute battalion movements. The different changes and formations executed by the right wing were then repeated, and with the same general excellence, the limited size of the room causing the very few errors that were rapidly pushed to completion.

The board of officers have decided to hold a fair in the new armory in October next for the benefit of the fund. Each company of the regiment and of the veterans is to appoint a committee of five, which will be charged with organizing and obtaining the aid of the friends of the members. The fair is to be managed by a board of managers, to consist of the chairman of the company committees, three representatives of the field, staff and non-commissioned staff of the regiment and two representatives of the field and staff of the veterans. The

board of managers is to encourage the organization of auxiliary committees of ladies and citizens to assist in the management of the fair.

**FIFTH NEW YORK BRIGADE.**—The proceedings, findings, and sentences, of the brigade Court martial convened, for the trial of delinquent officers during the year 1878, and of which Col. S. V. R. Cruger, 12th Infantry, is president, have been approved. The fine of five dollars imposed upon 1st Lieut. Charles J. Heiferich, Co. K, 5th Infantry, has been remitted in view of the letter received from him by the reviewing officer, which, while the court could not receive it as evidence, is nevertheless pronounced satisfactory, as a reason why the fine should not be enforced. The Court-martial of which Col. S. V. R. Cruger is president, has been dissolved with the thanks of the brigade commander for the very prompt and satisfactory manner in which its duties have been discharged. The following are the fines imposed by this court: 5th regiment—Lieut. W. H. Worms, \$40; Lieut. Louis Siebert, \$5; Capt. Henry Ragen, \$5; Lieut. John Plate, \$5; Lieut. C. J. H. Bade, \$30. 12th regiment—Lieut. Edwin J. Epstein, \$40; Lieut. Henry P. Sonnheim, \$25; 22d regiment—Lieut. Philip H. Farley, \$10; Lieut. Geo. H. Moller, Jr., \$15.

**NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.**—The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors held its regular meeting March 11, Gen. G. W. Wingate in the chair. Major Jones, secretary, read a letter from Mr. F. W. Seward, Acting Secretary of State, Washington, returning a number of communications addressed by the association to the heads of military departments of foreign countries, which the State Department had been requested to forward officially to their destination. Secretary Seward stated that the department could not undertake the office requested, but suggested that Maj. Jones, as secretary of the N. R. A., ought to be able to effect the object through correspondence.

A communication was received from Gen. C. C. Augur, commanding the Department of the South, U. S. A., stating that his department would be represented at the International Match at Creedmoor this year. Lieut.-Col. August Pannet, Deputy Minister of Militia at Ottawa, Canada, and Major J. De Winton, private secretary of the Governor-General the Marquis of Lorne, in communications also promised to co-operate in insuring the success of the international military matches.

Maj.-Gen. Schofield, commanding at West Point, through Col. Wherry, Assistant Adjutant General, requesting information as to whether troops at that post detailed from Willet's Point, Long Island, might be allowed to shoot in the Department of the Atlantic. The committee decided that they would be allowed to compete for places and shoot as members of the team if successful. The secretary was directed to send letters to the presidents of State Rifle Associations in New York, and to leading riflemen throughout the United States requesting an expression of their views in reference to allowing competitors in military matches to shoot in any but the prone position. See article entitled Military Position in Rifle Practice, in this week's JOURNAL.

A special meeting of the life members of the Association will be held at 23 Park Row on Tuesday, March 18, at 4 o'clock P. M. sharp, for special consideration of the following proposed amendment to the by-laws, which has been subscribed to by ten members and its passage recommended by the Board of Directors, as required, viz.:

"Resolved, that section 3 of Article X of the by-laws be amended so as to read as follows: '"

"Clubs of fifteen from any company of the National Guard may become members of this Association on payment of two dollars a year per man."

"Clubs of twenty or over from any company may become members on paying one dollar and a half each a year."

**NEW JERSEY.**—The annual report of Major-General Lewis Perrine, Quartermaster-General of New Jersey, Acting Paymaster-General, Commissary-General and Chief of Ordnance, has been printed and distributed to the military officers of the State. It is a valuable document of 112 pages, and in the body of the report an interesting resume of the work of the department is given. It shows a total of small arms—the property of the State—of 23,337. Of heavier ordnance the State is the possessor of twelve light Napoleon guns, smooth bore; four 3-12 inch James guns, rifled, and eighteen 3-inch Griffin guns rifled, all serviceable. The cartridges for Springfield rifles calibre .45 on hand in the arsenal are shown to be 123,946, while the different regiments and battalion have at their headquarters and in company armories a total of 83,822 rounds. The report speaks of the rifle practice during the year, and shows a total issue of 52,500 rounds of ammunition for that purpose. The total number of men in uniform in the National Guard is stated from the annual returns from commandants of companies at 2,599, having in their possession 2,431 stand of arms, all breech-loaders with the exception of those in use by Co. C. of the 5th regiment, which has forty-two of the rifled muskets, not having been exchanged. The men and arms are apportioned as follows:

	Men.	Arms.
Sixth regiment	400	39
Third regiment	351	376
Ninth regiment	325	294
Seventh regiment	324	311
Fourth regiment	311	313
Fifth regiment	309	242
First regiment	283	293
Second Battalion	153	163
Gatling gun, Co. A	47	40
Battery A	97	4 guns complete
Total	2,599	2,431

The report contains seventeen pages of interesting reading matter, to which our space will not permit us to further refer, but we advise the New Jersey officers to carefully read it. In the appendix will be found an opinion of the Attorney-General against the leasing of military property for other than military purposes, and a well written report of Deputy Quartermaster James S. Yard details his trials while acting in his official capacity at the encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic at Deckertown. The statements in the appendix show that the department, of which Gen. Perrine has been the chief for more than twenty-three years, does a vast amount of work, and is necessary to advance the interests of the Guard.

G. O. No. 3, H. Q. N. G., directs the officers of the National Guard to assemble for instruction in rifle practice at the places and upon the dates herein announced: Gatling Gun, Company A, city armory, Elizabeth, March 6, 7.30 P. M.; 1st regiment, city armory, Newark, March 14, 7.30 P. M.; 4th regiment, city armory, Jersey City, March 18, 7.30 P. M.; 5th regiment, city armory, Newark, March 10, 7.30 P. M.; 9th regiment, 9th regiment, city armory, Hoboken, March 21, 7.30 P. M.; 21st Battalion, city armory, Newark, March 14, 5 P. M.; 3d regiment, city armory, Elizabeth, March 13, 5 P. M.; Cos. A, B, C, D, and F, 7th regiment, armory, Co. D, Trenton, March 7, 7.30 P. M.; Co. E, 7th regiment, Ocean Grove, March 15, 1 P. M.; 6th regiment, Cos. A, B, C, D, E, and F, city armory, Camden, March 12, 7.30 P. M.; Cos. H and K, armory, Cape May, March 13, 1 P. M.; Gatling Gun, Co. B, city armory, Camden, March 13, 7.30 P. M.

Col. Loder, A. A. G., who has been detailed by General Mott as instructor in army rifle practice, attempted to give instructions to the line officers of the 7th regiment on Friday evening, March 7, in the armory of Co. D, Trenton, but as only six of the fourteen officers were present, the attempt was abandoned as a failure, and the practice postponed until Friday evening, March 14, in the same armory. While the men composing this regiment are good soldiers, and ready to obey any orders given them, it must be confessed that the officers, field, staff, and line, are sadly negligent of their duties, and on this occasion they were the recipients of a well merited reprimand from Col. Loder. The regimental board has not held a meeting for nearly two years, and the staff is minus a paymaster and an assistant surgeon, the chaplain resides in another State, and Co. F, of Mount Holly, had had no captain for nearly four months.

S. O. No. 5, H. Q. N. G.—The inspection of the companies named in special Orders No. 2, H. Q. N. G., c. s., will be held at their armories at 8 o'clock P. M. on the following dates: Co. B, 4th regiment, March 15; Co. A, 3d regiment, March 21; Co. F, 3d regiment, March 25; Co. E, 6th regiment, March 22; Co. A, 7th regiment, March 17; Co. D, 7th regiment, March 11; G. O. No. 4, H. Q. N. G.—All knapsacks that are in possession of the several organizations of the National Guard are to be forwarded without delay to the State Arsenal at Trenton, by railroad, and turned over to the quartermaster-general for inspection and repair.

**2d Battalion.**—Marksmen's badges were presented to the 13 marksmen of this battalion on Thursday evening, March 6. General Plaine in presenting the badges said that the general commanding the National Guard presented the compliments of Governor McClellan, Commander-in-Chief, congratulating the battalion on what they had accomplished. The General said that he was directed to detail an officer to present the badges but he considered it an honor and pleasure to present them personally. He complimented the battalion on their appearance and soldierly bearing, and spoke highly of the State team for their fine work in the inter-State match at Creedmoor last fall—that these team matches between the different regiments, as well as that of the State team, is conducive to the good feeling and harmony of the whole National Guard of the State.

The bill introduced in the Legislature by Assemblyman Taugerman to build an armory in Hoboken, in meeting with great favor by a large majority of the tax payers of Hoboken have petitioned Senator Raab to support the bill, and it is expected that it will become a law. The want of a large drill room and proper quarters has been long felt by the militia of Hoboken, and has been a great drawback to the several companies in retaining the first class membership which is desired. The building of the armory will double the interest taken in National Guard matters, and will enlarge the membership roll of the several companies to some extent.

**PENNSYLVANIA.**—Orders have been issued from headquarters 1st Brigade, directing that during the ensuing three months the various commands should be inspected, and in addition, would be required to execute battalion or company drills, and guard mounts, including the posting and relieving of sentinels. On March 3, Companies B, F, and H, 1st regiment, reported an aggregate strength of 123 officers and men, Company F parading nearly half the number. The general appearance, steadiness, knowledge of duties, etc., was excellent in all. The men were inspected in the new State fatigue uniform, without knapsacks, haversacks, or canteens. The battalion being dismounted, was reformed after equalization into four companies, for battalion drill, in which their usual proficiency was shown. Most of the companies in the regiment are evincing a marked improvement in battalion drills, but more attention should be given to the company movements, upon which those of the battalion are based, and from which many of the errors in the latter originate. March in column of fours too fast, although step was regular. Movements and deployments rendered in fair shape, except that guides were slow in placing themselves on line. In a plowment on fourth company, left in front, the captain failed to move it to the front and also to dress it. The company commanders also erroneously went to the flank of their companies in a backward march to gain distance. A centre forward, with formation into line by two movements, double column of companies, change of direction, and formation of line, all gone through with in fair shape. The drill being terminated, guard mounting commenced, the ceremony being smoothly conducted, and without any material errors. In posting and relieving sentinels it was evident that they all need to study their tactics. The corporal of the new guard should remember to march on the left near the rear file, and the corporal of the old on the right of the leading rank. In challenging, the sentinels were particularly defective. The grand rounds were made by the inspector, battalion commander, and officer of the day.

On March 10, Cos. C, D, E and K reported for inspection, etc., general appearance, bearing, and steadiness excellent. The inspection over, the companies were equalized and put through a number of battalion movements. On the march the step was made at the tap of the drum, which contributed very much to its regularity. The movement "right of companies rear into column" was executed with unusual precision, but in dressing the third and fourth companies were advanced, causing a balk in the next movement, "left into line wheel," the distance being too short to dress without making a side step. A plowment, close column on first company, right in front, excellent on part of all except captain of second company, who dressed without regard to his position. Centre forward, good, other than that the left centre company was not oblique. March in double column of fours could not have been excelled. A fours left, right companies on left into line, captain of second company (now right centre company), was again at fault; apparently having no conception of the movement, and the consequence was the company moved forward in column of fours until opposite its position in line, made a "four left," coming in of course with the original left on the right. Centre forward was again made, and forming line by two movements explained to him. The movement was right; although still the left was to the right. It so remained during the evening.

The balance of the drill was excellently rendered, the officers of all the other companies being well posted. The colonel paid particular attention to the captain of this second company, and with this help he too fairly performed the balance of the movements. Guard mounting was next in order, and was very fairly gone through with; in many respects much better than on the previous evening.

Company F, 1st regiment, gave a full dress drill and reception at St. George's Hall on the same evening. It was one of the finest military gatherings held this season, being attended by a large majority of the prominent officers in the city. After the inspection was over, by invitation of the company, Gen. Snowden and staff, and Col. Wiedersheim and staff, of the 1st, visited the hall for the purpose of witnessing the drill of the company. Some fifty members were in uniform, and divided, made two fair sized companies for maneuver as a battalion; but in undertaking this, several errors were committed in forming line. Companies were wheeled into column, brought to rear open order, and form of inspection gone through with in fair style. Ranks being closed, right forward fours right was given. Marching, excellent. Right of companies rear into column, very fair. Column of fours and a close column on first company right in front, nicely formed, followed by column of fours, first company, right forward fours right. Later, column of companies was formed, brought to rear open order, and as the loadings were included improperly put through the silent drill in the manual. As a fancy drill, however, it could hardly have been excelled. The order arms, although better than many, could still be improved by bringing the pieces to the ground with less shock. Line again formed, single rank, and more silent drill. A backward march in line was beautiful; alignment being perfect at the half. A right shoulder arms was followed by form double rank, fours right, and nicely executed; but marred by the error of bringing the pieces to a carry. No command half being given in this movement, they should have continued at the right shoulder until fours were wheeled into line. Right by two, form fours, etc., followed, all beautifully rendered. A dress parade closed the drill, the same errors in forming line being committed. Notwithstanding this, as a company, it is one of the best drilled in the 1st regiment, and can certainly feel highly gratified, if not flattered, by the encomiums passed upon its proficiency during the evening, by the very large audience assembled.

**CALIFORNIA.**—Companies C, D, and H, composing the left wing of the 1st Infantry, drilled at Horticultural Hall, February 17, under command of Lieut.-Colonel Wilder. A fourth company was improvised and put in charge of Lieut. Bates, and the line formed by Bush, Temperton, Bates and Allen respectively, in the order named. Lieut. McClinton, acting adjutant, turned over the command to the lieutenant colonel at twenty-five minutes to nine. Lieut. McClinton's salute with the sword is not correct; he should pursue paragraph 755 of Upton. The manual of arms was good, but the advance in line was somewhat broken, especially the two right companies. A new color bearer stepped to the front in a hesitating way, holding the staff so low that the flag settled down over his head and face; his struggles to avoid suffocation were painful to witness. It did not seem to occur to him to raise the staff higher to keep the colors from blinding him. Why don't the regiment select a shapely soldier for this position, teach him its duties and have him act at the wing drill, instead of leaving it as now to the hazard of chance or the caprice of an officer. At general alignment the captains forgot what to do at second command until ordered into place by the colonel. Double column of fours, third company, executed a front into line instead of the movement by fours; the company was promptly ordered by the colonel to rectify its position. We have more than a suspicion that the made up company on

these drills is furnished by the other companies with their recruits or half drilled men.

Right and left front into line was fairly done, and a repetition of the whole movement finely executed. To the right close of the maneuver, the divisions failed to "support" until noticed by the regimental commander. Again was the movement repeated, and this time the chief of the first faced his division to the wrong flank. This officer was somewhat uncertain as to which way to face his command during these movements. Perhaps these errors are pardonable, as we believe it is his first appearance with a company at battalion drill. Forming divisions from column of companies was not up to the standard of the regiments being somewhat carelessly done.

The marching and wheeling by column of companies was very finely performed, though an occasional loss of distance was observed. Right into line wheel was excellent, the guides standing steady and the whole movement being neatly completed. The same movement, "continue the march," was spoiled by the guides acting as from a fixed pivot. Companies left front into line, the captains were taken unawares, and the companies came into place in a scattered condition, the officers not readily realizing what the colonel desired.

A repetition of the movement was correctly done. Left of companies rear into column, third and fourth sub-divisions, went too far into the column, and third company very much disordered. A few repetitions made a visible improvement, and the command was then dismissed for intermission. The fine band of the regiment regaled the audience during the recess with popular airs, after which the details assembled for guard mount. They marched on to the alignment at a "carry" and formed correctly, the sergeants properly reporting to the sergeant-major. At the inspections of both guards the "open boxes" was for some reason omitted. The march in review was very good, though both guards marched too close to the band. Dismissed for dress parade. Three companies formed promptly in line and stood at a support arms, waiting for the fourth company trotting around the hall at the double time (band playing quick time) to come into place, which it finally did, some minutes late. During the sound of a man in rear rank, third company, was stroking his chin, and two in same rank, fourth company, turned towards each other and talked. These two could hardly be considered prize members of the prize company. The file closers of course were above the notice of such small things.

The review of the 3d Brigade on the 2d of February by Governor Irwin was the finest display of the military in many years. In the passage the 2d Infantry appeared the best, for they went by in fine style, column of divisions with equalized companies; the first, though marching well, presented a ragged appearance by reason of the files not being even, and the third passed with the same inequality of front, and its usual complement of half-drilled men. The cavalry looked as well as is possible for militia cavalry to look, especially the Oakland company, and "Brush's Battery" and the Gatling company appeared an interesting spectacle. A second passage in review for the edification of Major-General Lewis took place, altogether unnecessary, but "it is the militia way," and the weary troops then paraded through town to their armories.

#### VARIOUS ITEMS.

—An election to fill vacancies in Co. H, 71st regiment, was held on March 4, resulting in the choice of Lieut. Frank S. Bolton for captain and ex-Major Frank H. Jordan, U. S. Volunteers, for first lieutenant.

—The Veteran Association Gatling Battery N, 11th New York Brigade (Brooklyn), adopted its constitution and by-laws on March 6, and elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, Major E. T. Hotchkiss; Vice-President, Gen. Ira L. Bees; Secretary, Lieut. A. G. Jenkins, and Treasurer, Capt. John A. Edwards.

—Capt. Chas. H. Truslow, Co. B, 23d New York (Brooklyn), has tendered the resignation of his office.

—Conra. Louis E. Lefferts, Co. K, and Joseph L. Kellinger, Co. B, 7th New York, have been detailed to act as marksmen at all drills in the school of the battalion during the year 1879.

—Parv. J. A. Everard, Co. F, and Priv. Thomas D. Patterson, Co. H, 7th New York, having been expelled for missing three consecutive drills and for continuous neglect of duty, the action of the company has been confirmed by Col. Clark.

—Gen. Woodward, Acting Adjutant-General State of N. Y., has directed the 7th regiment to forward to General Headquarters S. N. Y. the enlistment papers of all recruits during the year 1878, and requires the regiment to hereafter comply with par. 603, State Regulations.

—The 48th New York (Oswego) are to have another new company—this time from Hannibal.

—Tax Marquis of Lorne has donated £50 as a prize in the Dominion Rifle Association matches.

—The 5th regiment Massachusetts Vol. Militia will visit New Haven in June next, and the several companies are making extra efforts to perfect themselves in precision at company and battalion.

—The 23d New York is ordered to drill by wing, at the armory, as follows: Cos. D, E, and B, on Friday, March 21, and Tuesday, April 1 and 8; Cos. I, C, F, H and K, on Friday, March 28, and Thursday, April 8 and 10. Assembly at 8 o'clock P. M. Company drills after Friday evening, March 28, have been countermanded.

—On March 6 Co. I, 13th New York, held an election for captain, vice Munro, resigned. Major Jones presided, and E. N. Chester was unanimously chosen to the vacant office. Captain Chester joined the 94th New York Vols. March, 1863, and participated in the battles of Chancellorsville, South Mountain, Antietam, Gainesville and Fredericksburg. He was appointed to the Military Academy, West Point, September 9, 1863, graduated June 17, 1867, and was promoted second lieutenant 4th U. S. Artillery, resigning to enter mercantile pursuits Oct. 22, 1870.

—In compliance with Special Orders No. 6, current series, headquarters 1st Brigade, a regimental court-martial 5th New York, is ordered to convene at the armory on March 17 at 8 o'clock P. M., for the trial of offences, delinquencies and derelictions among the non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates. Detail for the court: Capt. Geo. Theis.

—A COURT-MARTIAL for the trial of officers above the rank of captain, 1st New York Division, for delinquencies and derelictions during the year 1878, has been ordered to convene at the headquarters of the Troop A, Cavalry, on March 27. Detail for the court: Brig.-Gen. Frederick Vilmar, 3d Brigade, president; Col. C. B. Mitchell, 1st Division staff, and Lieut.-Col. Wm. De Lacey, 69th regiment.

—The committee on rifle practice from the National Guard Association S. N. Y. met at the armory of the 7th New York on March 6—present, Cos. Brownell, 47th; Maj. Far, 11th Brigade staff; Capt. Robbins, 7th; Capt. Becker, 12th; Capt. Baker, 8th. The committee organized with Capt. Robbins, chairman, and Maj. Far, secretary; the proposed changes in the system of rifle practice was thoroughly canvassed and generally agreed to. This change looks to the abolishment of second class, and the 500 yards in the first class, the practice to be at 100 and 150, 200 and 300 yards, all standing, with a special class at 500 and 600 (optional) for sharpshooters.

—ADJT.-GEN. Jones, of North Carolina, reports the aggregate strength of the State Guard as 2,255. More than fifty thousand dollars worth of ordnance is in the hands of the troops, most of the rifles being the very latest improved breech-loading patterns.

—At the annual meeting of the Dominion Rifle Association held at Ottawa on March 5 the council referred to the visit of Utica Citizens' Corps, N. G. S. N. Y., to the Rideau Rifle Range, as an evidence of the good fellowship existing between the United States and Canadian riflemen.

—A MILITARY tag of war (by special request) between teams of six men each, from the 7th, 23d, and 23d regiments N. G. S. N. Y., are among the athletic games of the Columbia College Boat Club, to take place at Gilmore's Garden on Friday and Saturday evenings, April 4 and 5, commencing at 8 P. M.

—The battalion drill of the 13th New York, to be held at Gilmore's Garden on March 30, will be one of the military events of the season of 1879, the regiment being second to none in the State in the execution of movements of the school of the bat-

talion. One hour is set apart for this drill, during which the principal movements of the Tactics will be illustrated. A review will be held and the command presented with a new stand of colors, the military ceremonies closing with a dress parade. A promenade concert will precede and continue after the military exercises. The exhibition will be well worth witnessing.

—Mr. Alfred Davenport, late 5th New York Volunteers (Duryee Zouaves), has written a record of the Camp and Field Life of the old regiment, just issued from the press of Messrs. Dick and Fitzgerald, Ann street, New York. The work is a faithful record of the stirring scenes through which the regiment passed during the early years of the late war; and in its preparation, officers on both sides of the line, and official reports and records, have been consulted. It describes the various engagements in which the old 5th participated, the stories of its glory being interspersed with the fun and frolic of the camp. In the appendix is a list of the casualties by company, showing a loss of 365 officers and men during the term of service, which, added to the loss in the three years' men transferred to the 14th New York, show a total loss in the regiment of 1,500. In addition, personal sketches are given of the prominent officers, and an abstract of the original muster roll of the regiment. As a whole it is a valuable record, and a work which should be in the hands of every man who had the honor and glory of being a member of the Army of the Potomac and who participated in the Peninsula campaign.

#### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

**ARMY.**—The statement in the JOURNAL of February 8 that the Attorney-General has decided that officers are entitled to commutation of quarters for servants was correct. The Attorney-General did make such a decision, but for some reason the War Department thought it best not to publish the decision at this time as there were many things to consider. How far back could they go? At what rates were they to settle, etc.? They were likely to get into a snarl and they concluded to put off all action until the adjournment of Congress. In the meantime Mr. Hewitt got wind of the decision and added the clause to his appropriation bill which relates to commutation of quarters. The bill was not passed by Congress, and it is not likely anything will be done about the matter until the extra session has determined what will be done with the Army.

—W. T. H. Fort Laramie, Colorado, asks: What do you understand by "special duty," and what are the immunities of such detail? **ANSWER.**—Special duty is a detail which temporarily relieves an officer from the duties of his company, troop or regiment, and confer no immunities except the relief from regular duty.

—G. Erie, Pa., asks: In executing "fours right" from company front, at a halt, should the guides march to the front at the command "fours right," or should they wait until command "march" is given? **ANSWER.**—The guides should not move until the command of execution, "march." "Fours right" is only the preparatory command.

—J. C. South Amboy, N. J., asks: Is Co. E, of 163d N. Y. S. Vol., who were enrolled in 1867, still in existence, and can you give P. O. address of any commissioned officer of said company? **ANSWER.**—The 163d were consolidated with the 73d New York January 20, 1868, so that it is improbable that any of the companies of the 163d remain in existence.

—A. G. asks: Is a man who enlisted for the term of five years and who at the expiration of three years service received an honorable discharge entitled to a Government grant of land, and how much? **ANSWER.**—Existing laws do not authorize a grant of land under the circumstances mentioned.

—Y. G. M. asks: Is a regimental veterinary surgeon in a U. S. Cavalry regiment entitled to actual expenses while on detached service, or is he entitled only to transportation? **ANSWER.**—A veterinary surgeon in the Army receives a fixed salary. The Government furnishes him transportation from one post to another when ordered on detached service, but his salary remains unchanged, wherever he may be: actual expenses do not seem to be contemplated.

**RECRUIT** asks: Can a man who re-enlists for a blacksmith, saddler or trumper be made to serve in the ranks, notwithstanding his assignment as such from the recruiting rendezvous? **ANSWER.**—If he enlists for any of the special branches mentioned, he can if found not fit, or for any other satisfactory cause, be made to serve in the ranks. He enlists for a soldier, and while he may be kept at his specialty, for the benefit of the service, he is a soldier and available for a soldier's duties. This is believed to be in accordance with recent decisions made at the War Department.

**SIXTY-NINTH NEW YORK** asks: 1st. When the color company is in command of a junior officer, the commandant being absent, does the color company dress first in formation or does the captain of the fifth company, he being the senior? 2d. Can the adjutant compel 1st lieutenants to drill under his personal command? **ANSWER.**—1st. The color company is dressed first, see par. 375, Tactics. 2d. Par. 16, State Regulations, says: "Staff officers shall not assume command when an officer of the line is present on duty, except assigned by competent authority." An adjutant could not compel lieutenants to drill under his command, unless under the authority of the regimental commandant, who might detail him for that duty.

—W. V. S. asks: Can an enlisted man who has served continuously for over thirteen years have the alias under which he enlisted changed to his proper name upon application to the Adjutant-General, U. S. A., or will the change have to be effected by process of law? **ANSWER.**—The change seems to lie within the jurisdiction of the War Department. Apply accordingly.

—E. N. G., Bridgeport, Conn., writes: Please answer the following inquiry: The colonel of the 4th regiment C. N. G. divides his regiment into four battalions; Nos. 1, 2 and 3 are commanded by field officers, while the 4th is under the command of the senior captain of the regiment, whose company forms one of the three companies of which the battalion is composed; does this company lose its position in line at battalion drill in consequence of its captain acting as battalion commandant? Par. 365, Upton's Tactics, speaking of companies, whose captains are absent for a few days only, may retain its place according to his rank, at the discretion of the colonel; in the case some claim that this captain is present, and that his company should not be deprived of its position because he is obliged to relinquish its command temporarily in obedience to orders; others claim it is an injustice to have a first lieutenant command the right company while a captain is present. I think I have stated the case sufficiently plain to enable you to settle the question. **ANSWER.**—The captain's assignment to the temporary command of this battalion should not necessitate the loss of the company's place in line.

**IGNORANT**.—There is not at this time a single vacancy in the artillery. There are some twenty vacancies in the cavalry and infantry. We hope that the promotions will go on now; but there is a doubt about it. Perhaps nothing will be done until the extra session is over.

—J. W. writes: Congress at their last session passed an act placing an ordnance sergeant on the retired list; thus taking an initiatory step towards the retirement of the old veterans of the Army who have become incapacitated for further service on account of old age. I respectfully ask if it is advisable to petition Congress at their coming extra session to pass a law retiring all enlisted men who have served honorably for from twenty to thirty years, with either three-fourths or full pay, according to length of service of the grade they held, or may hold, at date of discharge or retirement. **ANSWER.**—Such a law as you propose would no doubt be highly beneficial and proper, but it would be useless to petition Congress at the extra session to give the matter consideration. At the regular session effort might be made in the direction mentioned, with possible hopes of success.

**PATENTS FOR MILITARY INVENTIONS.**—The following patents have recently been granted: To Henry Goodman, of St. Louis, for a breech-loading fire arm. A projecting lug at the rear end of the barrel engages with the top of the frame to limit the movements of the barrel and prevent strain of the hinge joint.

**LA MARSEILLAISE.**—Apropos of the revival of this hymn as the national anthem of France, the New York *World* says, after speaking of the songs that preceded it: None of all these had the vitality and intoxication of Rouget de l'Isle's splendid inspiration, "La Marseillaise," which France has sung whenever the crisis came and men had to be made drunk for desperate action. "I have beaten the enemy, having with me ten thousand soldiers and the 'Marseillaise,'" wrote one general. Napoleon prohibited it in time of peace. Proudhon said later that it was a war song which should be unheard in peaceful hours—but Napoleon's soldiers sang it at every bivouac and on every battlefield from Marengo to Mont Saint-Jean. Under the Restoration it was prohibited music; so it was under the Monarchy of July, save for a few weeks after the Three Glorious Days, when, as Béranger said of his own songs, it furnished much of the powder for every ball shot at the throne of Charles X. Louis Philippe, as we shall see later, was, however, an admirer of the song. Till 1848 "La Parisienne" was played at all State pageants. After the coup d'état the "Marseillaise"—naturally—was doomed to silence, yet on several memorable occasions it was heard, when the Empire called the air of the Revolution to its aid. In the Crimea—just as the English infantry men, who still wear roses in their caps on the anniversary of the day their regiment made its stand among the rose-bushes of a Minden garden, waked the echoes at a critical moment with the "Mindens yell," sedulously practised from generation to generation in spite of formal prohibition—Bosquet (as he records in his "Correspondance") gave the signal for the attack on the Malakoff by lifting his cap and crying to the soldiers and musicians, "Beat the charge! Forward! Strike up 'La Marseillaise!'" It is matter of history how during the Exposition of 1867 an Austrian band sent an electric thrill through astonished Paris by playing the "Marseillaise" in the Cirque des Champs-Elysées. Three years later, on the eve of the Franco-Prussian war, Napoleon surprised a vast reception at St. Cloud by ordering one of the bands of the Imperial Guard to play it, and the same night by order—not by permission or request—at every café concert and theatre in France "La Marseillaise" was sung to electrified audiences that roared the chorus and shrieked "A Berlin! A Berlin!" The Commune put the "Marseillaise" out of favor with orderly Republicans; people learned to say, as its author had nearly eighty years before, "Things look bad—they are singing it in the streets." This led to some perplexities and complications. When Marshal Canrobert went to Rome to attend Victor Emmanuel's funeral he lost his baggage and had to step out in uniform to be received by a distinguished guard, whose commander suddenly remembered that "La Marseillaise" was revolutionary, and was utterly unable to think of another air fit for the occasion, so there was immense confusion on both sides. A similar *contretemps* occurred when Admiral Fourichon went to Madrid to represent the Marshal-President at King Alfonso's wedding, and twice, when the Prefect of the Seine and the Parisian Municipal Council visited London, there was much worry at the Mansion House over the musical programme. At the time of the theatrical riot at Nantes, General Borel, the then Minister of War, called the "Marseillaise" a revolutionary, political and blood-thirsty chant, not

proper to be performed by regimental bands in time of peace. The funniest of all these complications was undoubtedly that which occurred during the Berlin Congress, when at the Zoological Gardens the Berliners gave a grand *fête* in honor of the assembled plenipotentiaries of Europe, whereat the bands were to perform the national airs of all the nations represented. When it came to the turn of France—it would not do to play "La Marseillaise" with the Emperor William still full of Socialist buckshot—the bands struck up "La Gavotte de Louis XIII," very appropriate for a general. The times were not then ripe for such an act as General de Gresley has just taken, for M. Taladier vainly proposed in the Chamber of Deputies only a few months ago that "La Marseillaise" should be acknowledged as the national air of France, to be played on all public occasions. He dwelt especially on the inconvenience of being without such an air during the Exposition, but the committee to which his bill was referred "sat down on it" gently but firmly, pointing out that it was unnecessary inasmuch as the law of 1795 proclaiming the hymn a national air was still on the statute books unrepealed. As Americans would put it, the government was for the law but against its enforcement. Things have changed, however, with the definitive triumph of the republic.

This Russian Artillery Committee has for some time been employed in considering the feasibility of adopting, as a regular part of the siege equipment of the Russian army, ordnance which, being too heavy to be moved about intact, can be taken to pieces for purposes of transport and put together again when brought to the place where its services may be required. They recommend for adoption an 8-inch gun and a 9-inch mortar designed by the commandant of the Oberhoff manufactory. The gun divides into three parts—namely, an inner tube, weighing 33 puds, or about 12cwt.; a breech piece with trunnions, weighing 177 puds, or 64cwt.; and a muzzle piece, weighing 111 puds, or 36cwt. The total weight of the gun, which is a rifled breech-loader, is therefore 346 puds, or rather more than 54 tons. In the course of its trials a series of 130 rounds were fired from it, the gun being taken to pieces and put together again after every thirty rounds, the latter operation being performed by twenty men in three hours. Not the slightest hitch occurred in the firing of the gun during the whole course of the trials, and the practice made with it was very satisfactory. They recommend a more equal distribution of the parts of the gun. Gen. Todleben has expressed an unhesitating opinion that, despite the difficulties attendant upon its use, the introduction of the 9-inch mortar into the siege train was certainly desirable; pointing out that not only would such a piece be most useful for bombarding the vaulted defences of the enemy, but that occasion might arise for its employment with advantage as a travelling mortar in the defence of the Russian coasts.

A DESPATCH from Plymouth, dated early Tuesday morning, March 11, states that a fire has been raging for some hours on board the corvette *Thetis*, which was preparing to proceed to the Cape. She lies in the same basin as the *Northumberland* (iron-clad) and several other men-of-war.

The following list of changes in the high military commands of the French army have been given:

General Clinchant is appointed to the command of the Army Corps at Châlons, General Wolff at Besançon, General Cambriels at Clermont, General Lefebvre at Lille, General Carteret at Amiens, General Cornat at Mâcon, General Doubrelaine at Orléans, General Galifet at Tours, General Osmont at Rennes, General Scinitz at Limoges, and General Farre at Lyons. The Duc d'Aumale and Generals Deligny and Douay are appointed inspectors-general, and Generals Montaudon, Bataille, Du Barail, and Bourbaki are placed on the retired list.

THE Trinity House, London, have found their recent experiments with a new gas for the purpose of lighting buoys, which are now useless after dark, so successful that they are having a number of buoys constructed after the new plan. The peculiarity of the gas is that a buoy full of it in a compressed state will keep a light burning for some months without need of replenishing. A lantern has been constructed in which the light is protected from spray at whatever angle it is placed. One of the lanterns, arranged on a buoy, was exposed off Trinity House wharf to the action of water from a fire engine, and it was found impossible to extinguish the light.

THE ideal hotel must unite three things: A perfect table, luxurious room accommodations, and attentiveness to the wants of the guests. When to these is united moderation in price, the attraction is almost irresistible. Such is *par excellence* the character of the celebrated New York hotel, the "St. Nicholas." An elevator makes all parts of the house easy of access, and the location is central and convenient.

MESSRS. HOWARD and Co., No. 264 Fifth avenue, New York, announce a sweeping reduction in price of the famous Waltham Watches. We are personally acquainted with Messrs. Howard and Co., and know them to be thoroughly reliable. We do not hesitate to commend them to our readers as being in every way worthy of confidence.—*Inter-ocean, Chicago.*

A pen, in the course of manufacture, goes through twenty-five different processes, takes four weeks to complete, and yet is offered to the general public by the gross box at considerably less than a cent a pen. The largest manufacturers in the United States are the Esterbrook Steel Pen Company of Camden, N. J., their warehouse being at 26 John street, New York. Their pens are for sale by all the leading Stationers in the country.

CANNOLINE, a deodorized extract of petroleum, is now presented to the public, without fear of contradiction, as absolutely the best Restorative and Beautifier of the hair the world has ever produced; it performs what others only claim for their preparations.

**Chew JACKSON'S BEST Sweet Navy Tobacco**

#### BIRTHS.

BERGLAND.—March 5th, 1879, to the wife of Lieutenant Eric Bergland, Corps of Engineers, a son.

McGREGOR.—At Berkeley, Cal., Feb. 20th, 1879, to the wife of Capt. Thomas McGregor, 1st Cavalry, a daughter.

STOCKTON.—February 16, at No. 10 Norwood Terrace, Southsea, England, the wife of Lieut. H. T. Stockton, U. S. frigate Constitution, of a son.

#### JUST PUBLISHED.

**A Treatise on Military Law,**  
AND THE  
JURISDICTION, CONSTITUTION AND  
PROCEDURE OF MILITARY COURTS,

WITH A SUMMARY OF  
THE RULES OF EVIDENCE AS APPLICABLE  
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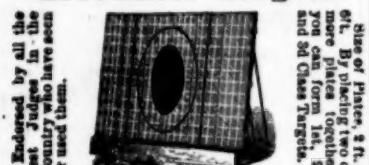
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them.

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## STATEMENT OF THE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, OF NEW YORK.

**F. S. WINSTON**, President.

For the Year Ending Dec. 31st, 1878.

Net Assets, January 1st, 1878. \$89,355,678 27

### RECEIPTS FOR 1878.

From Premiums. \$13,092,719 83

From Interest & Rents 4,732,407 74 17,815,127 57

TOTAL. \$100,900,805 84

### DISBURSEMENTS FOR 1878.

For Death and Endow-  
ment Claims (matur-  
ed and discounted). \$6,600,713 22

For Annuities. 26,697 97

For Dividends. 8,555,462 00

For Surrendered Poli-  
cies and Additions. 4,314,158 91

For Contingent Guar-  
antee Account. 277,101 09

For Commissions (pay-  
ment of current and  
extinguishment of  
future). 552,496 63

For Expenses & Taxes 817,099 57 16,036,739 42

BALANCE JANUARY 1st, 1879. \$81,174,076 42

### ASSETS, JANUARY 1st, 1879.

Bonds secured by  
Mortgages on Real  
Estate. \$57,308,331 99

United States and  
other Stocks, (cost  
value). 17,333,175 18

Real Estate. 6,319,051 73

Ch. in Bank and  
Trust Companies, at  
Interest. 3,100,516 10

Balances due by Agents 53,001 42

NET ASSETS, JAN. 1st, 1879. \$81,174,076 42

Add  
Interest Accrued. \$1,485,754 00

Deferred Premiums. 835,817 15

Premiums in transit. 129,274 58

Market Value of Stocks  
in excess of cost. 502,694 37 \$4,953,538 10

Gross Assets, Jan. 1st, 1879. \$87,197,614 52

Liabilities, Jan. 1st, 1879. 82,875,335 80

SURPLUS & CONTING' GUARANTEE  
FUND. \$4,340,378 72

Number of Policies in force Jan. 1, 1879. 91,828

Sum Insured thereby. \$290,774,315

NOTE.—If the New York Standard of four  
and half per cent. Interest be used, the surplus  
is \$11,393,553 30.

From the Surplus, as appears in the Balance  
Sheet, a Dividend will be apportioned to each  
Policy which shall be in force at its anniversary  
in 1879.

By the unanimous action of the Board of  
Trustees another important step in advance has  
been taken in the interest of all Policy-holders  
and the public, by directing that the premium  
rates on old and new Policies shall be reduced  
fifteen per cent. from present tabular rates  
for Whole Life Annual Premium Policies,  
with a corresponding equitable reduction on the  
other forms.

The option is given to present members to  
accept this reduction in cash or to pay full rates  
on the old plan, and receive equitable additions  
of insurance payable with the policy; the re-  
ductions to be made on the anniversaries of the  
policies. All dividends are allotted in propor-  
tion to the actual contributions of each class to  
the surplus of the Company.

New York, February 19, 1879.

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